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ERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

WITH RESPECT TO

THE DEPOSITORY BRANCH

OF THE

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly.

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FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION

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PAPERS

And Correspondence with respect to the Depository Branch of the Educational Department.

By Command,

S. C. WOOD,
Secretary.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Toronto, 6th January, 1877.

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PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

THE DEPOSITORY.

Paper No. 1.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, 4th February, 1876.

Hon. S. C. Wood,
Provincial Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—You will find accompanying this letter the Petition of Booksellers of Ontario. Also testimonials from School Trustees from different parts of the Province.

I remain,
Yours respectfully,
P. PATTERSON,
M.P.P., West Riding, Co. of York.

No. 2.

To His Honour the Honourable DONALD ALEXANDER MACDONALD, *Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.*

The Petition of the undersigned Booksellers of the Province of Ontario,

HUMBLY SHEWETH :

That owing to the existence of the Depository for the sale of books at the Education Office in Toronto, your Petitioners are thereby deprived of a portion of their trade.

That the cost of maintaining that Depository is a considerable expense to the Province.

That by the law passed last year, the right of Booksellers to compete with the Depository was acknowledged.

That the Chief Superintendent of Education thereupon reduced the prices of the books in the Depository ten per cent., and as these books have been said to be sold at cost price for over twenty years, there must now be a loss to the Department, besides causing unfair competition with the Booksellers.

That, notwithstanding this unfair competition, the Booksellers of Ontario are able to supply books to the Schools at the same prices as the Depository, and without any expense to the Province whatever. In testimony whereof your Petitioners append hereto copies of certificates from the Trustees of Schools, vouching for the prices and quality of books supplied by various Booksellers.

That, the Officers of the Department systematically violate the law, by supplying books which are not named in the authorized catalogue, while booksellers are prohibited from doing so.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray :—

1. That the sale of books be discontinued at the Education Office.
2. That Booksellers be allowed to supply the Public and High Schools with books in the same manner as they now supply the Mechanics' Institutes in this Province.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Dated at Toronto, this
4th day of February, A.D. 1876.

James Campbell & Son ....*Toronto.*
Wm. Warwick ..... *do*
Adam Miller & Co ..... *do*
Adam, Stevenson & Co .... *do*
A. S. Irving & Co ..... *do*
Willing & Williamson..... *do*
Winnifrith Bros .... *do*
M. Shewan ..... *do*
James Bain & Son ..... *do*
M. Bruce ..... *do*
Hart & Rawlinson ..... *do*
Rowsell & Hutchison ..... *do*
James Vannevar ..... *do*
S. W. Hallow ..... *do*
J. S. Plaskett ..... *do*
C. M. Richardson..... *do*
James Miller..... .... *do*
Alfred Piddington ..... *do*
William Finley..... ..... *do*
F. G. Bailey .... *do*
Sidney Smith ..... *do*
Joseph Taylor ..... *do*
Mrs. Bailey .... *do*
William Westbroom..... ..... *do*
William Ireland ..... *do*
William Bee..... ... *do*
P. C. Allan .... *do*
John Eastwood & Co .....*Hamilton,*
Duncan, Stuart & Co..... *do*
Richard Haigh .... *do*
Lancefield Brothers .... *do*
C. H. Field ..... *do*
John Greig ..... *do*
B. M. Ballantine .... *do*
D. McLellan..... ..... *do*
E. A. Taylor & Co ....*London,*
Reid & Anderson..... *do*
John Mills ..... *do*
Reid, Groat & Co..... .... *do*
John Morrish .....*Chatham,*
James Holmes .... *do*
Robert Cooper..... .... *do*
Wm. Bryce..... .....*London.*
J. W. Lean ..... *do*
Robt. Clarke..... ..... *do*
W. L. Carrie..... *do*
Wm. C. Copeland..... .....*St. Catharine*
B. C. Hairfilld..... ..... *do*
James Barr .... *do*
Daniel W. Bixby..... *do*
John Fleming & Co.....*Galt.*
E. J. Ewens..... ..... *do*
W. T. Smith .... *do*
T. I. Day..... .....*Guelph.*
Geo. M. Paterson per And. P..... *do*
J. Anderson..... ..... *do*
J. Durie & Son.....*Ottawa.*
Henderson & Co .... *do*

Smith & Stewart.....*Ottawa.*
Jas. Hope & Son.....*do*
Arthur S. Holmes.....*do*
John Lucy.....*do*
E. H. Perry.....*do*
J. G. Whyte & Son.....*do*
McMullen & Co.....*Brockville.*
F. L. Kincaid.....*do*
E. Overell.....*do*
John Hart.....*Perth.*
J. Bower & Co.....*do*
Edward Stacey.....*Kingston.*
George W. Maxwell.....*do*
Thos. McAuley & Co.....*do*
John Henderson.....*do*
Josh. Overell.....*Belleville.*
A. Van Norman & Son.....*do*
J. Sailsbury.....*Coboury.*
Fred. W. Beebe.....*do*
P. Trebelcock.....*do*
J. C. Reynolds.....*do*
R. A. Foster.....*Picton.*

Paper No. 3.

MEMORANDUM BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER ON THE BOOKSELLERS' PETITION TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

I desire respectfully to call the attention of the Honourable the Minister of Education, to matters connected with the reference to the Central Committee, of the Petition, and other documents from the booksellers.

1. The Petition and other documents on the subject, which the Minister has referred to the Central Committee are entirely *ex parte*, in their statements and character. They are framed in the interest of the booksellers alone, and are designed chiefly to impugn the past administration of the Depository. It does not appear possible, that the Central Committee can, under these circumstances, and knowing nothing whatever of the truth or otherwise of the statements made, present to the Minister a report of any practical or substantial value, on the Petition and other documents referred to them.

2. I might, though at great labour and inconvenience, point out to the Minister the character of the efforts now made in these documents to misrepresent the value and importance of the Depository as an indispensable educational agency of our Department; but would hesitate to do so under the circumstances of the case.

3. Believing that it is not the intention of the Minister to deal with this question, except in the fairest manner to those who have hitherto had to do with it, and upon its own merits alone, I would suggest, that the statements in the Petition and other documents referred to the Committee should not be accepted for the consideration of the Minister, or of the Committee, unless accompanied with proofs of the statements therein made; and that, therefore, the parties making them should be asked to furnish such proof as would be reasonable.

A draft of circular for that purpose is hereto appended.

4. As an example of the statements made in the Resolutions, Petitions, &c., sent in to the Minister, I would mention that it is alleged that in carrying out the law of 1874 on this subject, obstructions in the way of regulations were placed in the way of booksellers by the Department.

These regulations are hereto appended.

As a matter of fact, however, it can be clearly shown in a lengthened correspondence

with the Department on the subject: (1st), That Messrs. Campbell & Son (the only booksellers we have had to do with in the matter), sought to evade the law; and (2), That the late Chief Superintendent endeavoured in every way in his power, to carry out that law in the most liberal spirit.

It can also be shown, that while the official catalogue contains lists of books of over 150 publishers, nearly one-half of the books sent out by J. Campbell & Son, and their agents through the Province, up to the end of last year, were those of one publisher alone (Nelson, of Edinburgh), a system of exclusiveness and monopoly which it could never have been the intention of the Legislature to legalize and foster, and which had never been acted upon before. In fact, an exclusive system like that pursued by J. Campbell & Son, under the Act of 1874, would defeat the very object hitherto aimed at by the Legislature, which was to provide the schools with the greatest possible variety of good books from all of the leading publishers in Britain and the United States, and at the very cheapest rates.

5. The booksellers assume, in all the documents submitted to the Minister, that the Department has no right to establish a Depot for the *supply of its own schools* with what these schools may require to promote their efficiency, as well as to promote the careful moral, and intellectual training of the young; but if the Department is responsible (as it is, and should be), to the country and the Legislature for the success and efficiency of the schools, and moral culture of the pupils, such a doctrine cannot be admitted.

6. Apart from the theoretical "trade" question, and the more substantial question of cheapness and character of books, involved in this matter, the Minister will have to deal with three important practical questions.

1st. The Petition prays that the Depository be abolished, and "that booksellers be allowed to supply" Public and High Schools with books *in the same manner as they now supply Mechanics' Institutes*; that is, to supply the schools with such kinds of books as they please, without any restriction whatever, and at such prices as they (the booksellers) may fix.

The pernicious system of supplying Mechanics' Institutes with all kinds of books without any kind of supervision, is sufficiently exposed in the "Return" laid before the Legislature last Session* to require further reference to it; but as to the working of such a system on our schools, I need only quote the following American experience on the subject:—

MICHIGAN.—C. S. Stebbins, Esq., in his *Educational Needs of Michigan*, published in 1869, says:—"The founders of our school system thought libraries indispensable to furnish reading to the young. We do not need them now so much to furnish reading as to secure the proper kind of reading. This our present law would do but for one fatal defect—a defect as fatal as would be the omission of a connecting rod in a locomotive.

"And what kind of books were they?

"Some good ones, doubtless; but generally it were better to sow oats in the dust that covered them than to give them to the young to read. Every year, soon after the taxes were collected, the States swarmed with pedlers with all the unsaleable books of eastern houses—the sensational novels of all ages, tales of prairies, murders and love intrigues, the yellow-covered literature of the world."

NEW YORK.—In the State of New York, the Library system has, under the pernicious efforts of itinerant vendors, as just poined out, greatly declined.

The New York *Teacher* thus gives some of the reasons for this decline.

"The Trustees refuse to be troubled with the care of the library, thus consigning it to an unfavourable location in the section, and often hide it in some dark corner of the garret, or stow it into some out-buildings, where its only visitors are rats and mice and spiders. They exercise a low and pernicious taste in the selection of books. Dark and bloody tales of war and bloodshed, the silly catch-penny publications of unprincipled publishers, and the dry, uninstructive matter of some cheap old book, usurp the place of the instructive, the elevating, the refining, the progressive issues of reputable publishing

* This Return was not printed; but the information to which I refer will be found in the Appendix to Mr. James Brown's Report on the financial condition of the Depository, pages 92 to 98.

houses. They seem to regard it as a great evil that they cannot divert this sacred fund from its appropriate channel. Almost daily applications are made to the State Superintendent for permission to apply the library money to the payment of teachers' wages, and that, too, when the Section is destitute of many useful items of apparatus ; sometimes even a globe and a black board."

The State Superintendent of Michigan, after speaking of various difficulties in carrying out their library system says :

"But a worse evil grew up in the systematic plans of pedlers to palm upon the libraries a mass of cheap, trashy, and often pernicious literature ; one or two wealthy booksellers kept their peddling agents traversing the State, and many are the tricks by which they boasted that they cajoled the Inspectors. A few libraries were well selected and well kept ; but so valuless for the public good, and especially for the education of the young, had the great majority become, that all intelligent friends of education desired a change." See an illustration of the existence of this pernicious system of peddling in our Province, given in the *Globe's* "Book Trade Review," for 1862.* These "wealthy" and other "booksellers" here mentioned were determined, however, not to permit their "trade" to be interfered with by State authority, and their next course of action in the interest of the "trade" may be gathered from the following notice, which the State Superintendent found it necessary to issue to the schools :—

"*Caution.*—School officers are especially cautioned against travelling book pedlers who, pretending to be agents of the State contractors, or asserting that they will sell cheaper than the contract prices, palm on to the libraries inferior and cheap editions of the works selected, or of worthless books in their places, and in common and frail bindings.

"Every book on this list is contracted for at considerably less than the publisher's retail price for the same in common binding, while the binding provided for by the contract is much more expensive, as well as durable binding, than ordinary cloth or even sheep binding.

"No book pedler can furnish these books in equally good editions, and in equal binding, for the prices given in this circular.

"It is hoped that this simple and easy method of supplying the libraries with books will commend itself to the good sense of the people, and will induce a more liberal support of these valuable agencies of popular education. It would be difficult to devise a more simple plan. It is like bringing a large book store-home to each district. A large list of good books—*more than twice as large as any book-store in the State can show*—has been selected, with the aid of the best men in the State.

"*All orders for books and stationery must be sent to the State Superintendent* through the Secretary of the Board of School Commissioners, the Secretary keeping an account of the same."

2. The following is the second practical question with which the Minister will have to deal :

Owing to the extent and variety of books approved for schools,† a monopoly must exist, either under a public control, or in the hands of a private bookselling establishment—*though for public purposes.* This is now the case, for no books are supplied by booksellers to the schools, except from Campbell & Son, through their local agents, to whom they pay a fee of ten per cent. The lists which we receive from various places in the same hand writing, attest this. These agents receive ten per cent. on each order sent up, though they may never see the books, and J. Campbell & Son pay also for the local advertising.

3. The third practical question is :—

Owing, as before intimated, to the extent and variety of books approved, no one bookseller can keep more than one-half of them in stock (see American testimony on this point just quoted), and no country bookseller could keep a tithe of the stock required. The consequence is, that the supply must be confined to the books of but few publishers, and that

* In the *Globe* newspaper "Trade Review for 1862," the writer states that for "years the country has been flooded with the worst and most trashy class of literature from the American press. Books, whose only merit was their bulk and binding, have been hawked into every nook of the Province by a migratory tribe of itinerant pedlers."

† Our stock of books does not fall much short of $35,000 worth, which but few large bookselling houses can keep.

in the hands of some large firm able to invest sufficient capital for the purpose. As has been demonstrated last year, the supply of Nelson's books equalled *about one-half* of the whole number supplied by the booksellers—the balance was divided between a few others—leaving from 80 to 100 booksellers whose books (though approved) were not sent out at all. As a matter of practice, the great majority of the Trustees leave the selection of books to be sent to the Department (or to the bookseller, as the case may be). Booksellers would be more than human if they did not—they having the choice—constantly select and send out the books which afford them the greatest profit, and of that publisher (as in the case of the Nelson books cited), who will give them the largest discount. This large discount can always be secured by extensive orders from any one bookseller—this species of favouritism can never occur in the Depository—there being no inducement to do so but the contrary, as the effort is and always has been, to send out the greatest possible variety, and no two copies of the same book. [See the following table, up to the end of 1876, on this subject.]

Library and Prize Books supplied by James Campbell and Son themselves, and through local Booksellers, up to the 31st December, 1875 and 1876.

Names of Publishers.	Volumes up to Dec. 31, 1875.	Volumes up to Dec. 31, 1876.
1. Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh	3,952	3,168
2. Routledge & Co., London	1,144	1,003
3. Nimmo, Edinburgh	697	739
4. Warne & Co., London	544	424
5. Cassell, Petter & Galpin, London	340	507
6. Religious Tract Society, London	83	93
7. Chambers, London	71	136
8. Christian Knowledge Society, London	23	6
9. Johnston & Hunter		
10. Nisbet & Co.		
11. Houlston and Wright		
12. Gall & Inglis		
13. Griffin & Farran		
14. Strahan & Co		
15. Seeley, Jackson & Halliday		
16. Blackwood & Sons		
17. Bell & Daldy		
18. Harper Brothers		
19. Appleton & Co.		
20. American Tract Society		
21. Carter & Brother	1,682	1,150
22. Sampson, Low & Marston		
23. Oliphant & Co.		
24. Partridge		
25. Tegg		
26. Ward, Lock & Tyler		
27. Macmillan & Co		
28. Black		
29. Groombridge & Sons		
30. Lippincott & Co		
31. Sabbath School Union		
32. Scribner & Co.		
33 Miscellaneous Publishers		
Total number of volumes	8,482	7,226

Note.—We have books from 172 different publishers on the Library Catalogue. The number of volumes (8,413) sold under the new law by the booksellers up to the 31st December, 1875, would average 49 volumes to each publisher on the Catalogue; but we find that 3,952 volumes, or nearly one half, were sold from one publisher (Nelson.)

Of the 15,708 volumes sent out through booksellers up to the end of 1876, 7,120, or early one-half, were Nelson's, of Edinburgh.

4. If the Minister still thinks it desirable, under the circumstances, to refer the booksellers' documents to the Committee for report, before testing the statements of facts alleged in them, or asking for explanations, I would respectfully recommend that the Return laid before the House last Session be first printed for their information, and that Dr. May be associated with them (he being an officer of the Department, as are the Inspectors on the Committee), with a view to give information, and explain matters regarding which the Committee have no knowledge.

The following is a draft of circular to the signers of the petition, etc., which I would suggest:—

TORONTO, March, 1876.

SIR,—A petition to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, bearing your signature, having, by command, been transferred to this Department of the Honourable the Minister of Education, I am desired to state, that the Minister will give the subject-matter of the Petition his careful consideration.

As the prayer of that Petition is supported by certain alleged facts, for the correctness of which you have vouched by your signatures, I will thank you for such information in regard to these facts, as may be in your possession.

Among other things you allege, "that the cost of maintaining the Depository is a considerable expense to the Province," and that the present prices of books must involve "a loss to the Department," while it causes an unfair competition with booksellers. In another part of the Petition you allege, that the booksellers can supply books to the schools at the same prices as the Depository (18 cents for the 1s. sterling), without this loss and expense.

I will also thank you to let me know, for the information of the Minister, what amount and variety of books mentioned on the official catalogues you keep in stock for the supply of the schools.

I have, &c.,

Secretary.

NOTE.—I am perfectly certain that no proof can be adduced in support of the alleged "cost" of the Depository to the Province, nor of the alleged "loss" on the books.

I am also convinced, that only one of the Toronto signers will sell the books at the Depository prices. At all events, the circular would test their sincerity, and also obtain information as to the ability of the respective signers to supply the schools of the Province in the books at the authorized prices.

(Signed) J. GEORGE HODGINS,
Deputy Minister of Education.

Toronto, April, 1876.

(Enclosure.)

LAW AND REGULATIONS RELATIVE TO THE PURCHASE OF LIBRARY OR PRIZE BOOKS ELSEWHERE THAN AT THE PEOPLE'S DEPOSITORY, REFERRED TO IN THE DEPUTY MINISTER'S MEMORANDUM.

BOOKS FOR LIBRARIES AND PRIZES.

The thirty-first section of the High School Law (37 Vic. ch. 27), makes it the duty of the Chief Superintendent of Education:—

8. To employ all lawful means in his power to procure and promote the establishment of school libraries for general reading, in the several counties, townships, cities, towns, and villages;

9. To apportion the moneys provided by the Legislature for the establishment and support of High and Public School Libraries and prizes, and in providing High and Public Schools with maps and apparatus

(*a*) No aid shall be given towards the establishment or support of any school library, and in providing prizes, maps, and apparatus, unless an equal amount be contributed and expended from local sources for the same object.

* * * * * *

29. To authorize the payment, out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose, of one half of the cost of any prize or library book sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction, for Public and High Schools and Collegiate Institutes' which may be purchased by a Municipal or School Corporation from any bookseller or other parties, instead of at the Depository of the Education Department;

(*a*) Such payment shall be made to the order of the Corporation purchasing any of the books specified in the catalogues or lists sanctioned by the Council, on the following conditions:—

1. The Chief Superintendent shall be duly certified of the facts;
2. He shall be furnished with the usual guarantee as to the proper disposition of the books, which may be purchased elsewhere than at the Depository;
3. He shall be furnished with certified vouchers of the cost, edition, and binding of the books so purchased elsewhere;
4. He shall not pay more than than one-half of the cost of the books so purchased elsewhere, according to the prices specified for them in the printed catalogues, or in the authorized lists of such books published in the *Journal of Education*.

It will thus be seen that the law requires that the Chief Superintendent of Education shall be furnished:—

1. With a certificate of the "facts" of the purchase.
2. With the "usual guarantee" (*i.e.* form of application now in use for 20 years.)
3. With a certified voucher of the "cost" of each book purchased.
4. " " " " "edition" " "
5. " " " " "binding" " "

In order to include this latter information in a condensed and compact shape, the following form has been prepared on a sheet, and will be furnished on application:—

LIST OF BOOKS FOR SCHOOL PRIZES (OR LIBRARIES.)

Purchased from at
By the Trustees of

Under the provisions of the Consolidated School Act, relating to the supply of books for School Libraries and Prizes,—one half of the prices of which is claimed by the Trustees from the Department.

NAME OF EACH BOOK.	NAME OF PUBLISHER OF BOOK.	EDITION AND PRICE OF BOOK.					NOTES OR REMARKS.
		Edition of Book.	Style of Binding.	Page of Catalogue and No. of Book.		Price charged by Book-seller.	
				Page.	No.		

The following is a sufficient certificate of the "facts" of the purchase of an application for one-half of the cost of the books purchased elsewhere than at the People's Depository:—

To the Chief Superintendent of Education, Toronto:

We, the undersigned Trustees, do hereby certify that we have purchased the books mentioned in the within and accompanying lists, from of , at the prices named for them in the official Catalogue issued by the Education Department of Ontario; and that the books so obtained were duly applied in terms of the guarantee form of application sent herewith. We, therefore, claim one half of the amount paid by us to Mr. (as per receipted bill sent herewith), viz., $.

In testimony whereof, we, the Trustees of the Section (or Division), concerned, hereto affix, with our own hands, our names and our corporate seal of office, at , this day of , 187

Senior Trustee to sign his OWN NAME *here.*

Second Trustee to sign his OWN NAME *here (See note below.)*

Third Trustee to sign his OWN NAME *here.*

Corporate Seal to be placed here.

* NOTE.—The above, in the case of rural Schools, is to be signed by at least a majority of the Trustees, and in cities, towns and incorporated villages, by the Chairman and Secretary. In all cases the corporate seal is to be attached.

The following is the Trustees' "Guarantee for the proper disposition of the books" purchased elsewhere than at the People's Depository:—

SCHOOL TRUSTEES' GUARANTEE FOR THE PROPER APPLICATION OF THE BOOKS PURCHASED.

, 187

Insert the Post Office address here.

To the Chief Superintendent of Education, Toronto.

The Trustees of the at

[*School Section, Public or High School, or Collegiate Institute.*]

deeming it desirable to purchase a Library for (or to distribute PRIZES among the deserving pupils of) the School under its charge, have purchased a supply of suitable books, etc., enumerated in the accompanying list, in terms of the Departmental notice relating to libraries and prizes in Schools. The books, etc., selected are *bona fide*, for the School Library (or for distribution as prizes to the pupils of the School), and the Corporation hereby pledges itself not to dispose of these books, etc., nor permit them to be disposed of to any private party, or for any purpose whatsoever, but shall see that they are used as library books (or solely as prizes among the pupils attending the School, and not to the Teacher, or to any other party or parties whatsoever), in terms of the Law and Regulations granting one half of the cost of these books, according to the official catalogue and lists.

The nearest Post Office address is

In testimony whereof, the Trustees of the School above mentioned, hereto affix their corporate seal of office, at this day of 187

Chairman or Senior Trustee to sign his OWN NAME *here.*

Second Trustee to sign his OWN NAME *here*

Third Trustee or Secretary to sign his OWN NAME *here.*

Corporate Seal to be placed here. *See note below.*

* NOTE.—The above, in the case of rural Schools, is to be signed by at least a majority of the Trustees, and in cities, towns, and incorporated villages, by the Chairman and Secretary of the School Board.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS AND REGULATIONS.

1. *Great Variety of Publications for Prize and Library Books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction.*—As the intention of the Legislature in making the grants for Public School libraries and prize books was to enable the Municipal and School Corporations, at cost, to accompany and supplement the instruction of the schools with a variety of healthy and literary knowledge for the youth and young people of the country, the Department has procured, and the Council of Public Instruction have sanctioned, various books issued by over 120 publishers. The Trustees are not, therefore, confined to the selection of books of any one publisher, but have a wide discretion in the selection of books, so as not to have

two copies of any one book in any one library or any one prize book selection. The Department, as in duty bound, keeps, as far as possible, in its People's Depository, a supply of the books approved, from time to time, by the Council of Public Instruction.

2. *Duplicate Copies of Books.*—A long standing rule of the Department on this subject is as follows:—

"As a general rule only one copy of each book (unless under very special circumstances, to be reported), should be supplied to each school.

"The object of the Department is *to diffuse as widely as possible as great a variety of books at the same prices as can be obtained*, and not to narrow that diffusion by duplicating the same books."

3. *Name of each Book.*—In order to enable the proper officer in the Department to check the lists of books sent in, it will be necessary for parties to insert on the form supplied for that purpose the name of each book, page of catalogue or list in the *Journal of Education* on which it is mentioned, etc. The necessary forms (see within), will be furnished on application.

4. No grant will be made to Trustees of a less sum than $5, *i.e.* for purchases at least of $10 worth of prize *or* library books at the official catalogue or *Journal* prices.

5. *Attention to Law and Regulations.*—Attention to the law and regulations printed herewith will avoid unnecessary delay in making a prompt settlement of all claims sent in to the Department. By reference to the extracts from the law on the other side, it will be seen that no grant can be lawfully made by the Chief Superintendent except for those books named in the official catalogue or in the *Journal of Education*, and at the prices therein specified.

Education Office,
Toronto, January, 1875.

Paper No. 4.

MEMORANDUM ON PETITION OF BOOKSELLERS BY DR. MAY TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

1. *Statement.*—"Owing to the existence of the Depository, your petitioners are thereby deprived of a portion of their trade."

Remarks.—I cannot see how news-vendors and small store-keepers of fancy goods, &c. (of which several have signed the petition), can in any way be affected by the Depository; as to their being deprived of a portion of their trade, it is as fallacious as ridiculous, even if the arguments of the Booksellers are correct. Several others have signed the petition, who do not keep the authorized books for sale, but act as agents for Messrs. Campbell & Son.

In what manner the legitimate Booksellers can be deprived of a portion of their trade, it is difficult to understand, they must be in actual possession of a thing before they can be deprived of it; as they never did possess this trade, it is impossible for them to be deprived of a portion of it.

2. *Statement.*—"The cost of maintaining the Depository is a considerable expense to the Province."

Remarks.—This is contradictory to the statement made at different times by this Department, and which appears in various Reports issued from the Department, it is therefore necessary that the Booksellers give some proof of this assertion.

3. *Statement.*—"That by the law passed last year, the right of Booksellers to compete with the Depository was acknowledged."

Remarks.—This is true, and we have not interfered with that right; we are satisfied to let it rest on its own merits; if as the Booksellers say, they can give better satisfaction than the Depository, they will eventually succeed in getting the whole trade.

4. *Statement.*—"That the Chief Superintendent thereupon reduced the prices of the books in the Depository ten per cent., and as these books have been said to be sold at cost

price for over twenty years, there must now be a loss to the Department, besides causing unfair competition with the Booksellers."

Remarks.—We deny these statements, and ask for a proof of them. We did not deduct 10% after the law allowing Booksellers to compete was passed, we never sold at cost price; neither are the books now sold at a loss. In regard to the unfair competition with the Booksellers, we have never competed with them, the prices have been fixed irrespectively of Booksellers, without thought of competition, so as best to meet the requirements of the school system, and in accordance with the rules by which the Depository has been managed.

5. *Statement.* "That notwithstanding this unfair competition the Booksellers of Ontario are able to supply books to the schools, at the same price as the Depository, and without any expense to the Province whatever. In testimony whereof your Petitioners append hereto copies of certificates from the Trustees of Schools."

Remarks.—Some of the booksellers may be able to supply the books, but hitherto they have been chiefly supplied through agents by Messrs. Campbell & Son, and the booksellers do not keep the authorized books in stock for the accommodation of the Schools.

In regard to the expense to the Province, if the Depository be closed, it will necessitate a supervision of the books supplied by the booksellers, and will probably cost more than the present proportion of salaries paid for the management of the Library and Prize departments of the Depository.

There is no doubt that the prices of books supplied by booksellers are correct. This Department is careful that the law in this respect be properly carried out; every list is examined, and the price of every book compared before the accounts are certified to the Treasury Department for payment.

6. *Statement.*—"That the officers of the Department systematically violate the law."

Remarks.—We have made no change in the supply of prize books since the commencement of sending out prizes, and they need to give proof that we have violated the law.

7. *Statement.*—"That booksellers be allowed to supply the Public and High Schools with books, as they now supply the Mechanics' Institutes."

Remarks.—This would place every School Trustee in a position to select whatever books he pleased, no matter whether they were dime novels or other trash, or from whom they were purchased, pedlers would invade the country, and the prize system would probably prove a curse instead of a benefit to our Province.

I consider the Mechanics' Institute system a decided failure, as stated in my reply to remarks on Village Libraries. Some Institutes do not report, and those that do so are unsatisfactory, and although we have received reports against the Mechanics' Institute system of purchasing books, I have never yet seen any report in favour of that system.

(Signed) S. P. May.

Toronto, April, 1876.

Paper No. 5.

(*Enclosure to the Booksellers' Petition*).

COPIES OF TESTIMONIALS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOL TRUSTEES AND OTHERS REGARDING SCHOOL PRIZE BOOKS SUPPLIED BY BOOKSELLERS IN ONTARIO, DECEMBER, 1875.

Referred to in Petition presented last Session to the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislature, by James Campbell & Son, and others, February 3rd, 1876.

Baltimore, Ont., January 3rd, 1876.

The prize books that we received from you through J. Sailsbury, Cobourg, to the amount of $80.00, were a superior class of books to those received from the Educational Department heretofore. Those received from the latter place were usually soiled more or less, with rough handling such as they receive from the hands of the young officers in

charge of the Book Department in that Institution. We expect to order $40.00 more for our Easter examination.

Yours, &c.,

(Signed) M. A. JAMES,
Head Master Public Schools, Baltimore.

We, the undersigned, Trustees of School Section No. 1 in the village of Ailsa Craig, take great pleasure in expressing our satisfaction with the prize books which we purchased through Mr. S. Hey under the arrangements of the new law.

(Signed) GEORGE D. ARNOLD, *Chairman.*

SAMUEL GILLIES,
R. W. TWEDDLE,
JOSEPH ROSSER,
THOS. HEY,
JAMES ATKINSON, } *Trustees.*

Dated this 8th day of January, 1876.

OTTAWA, 8th January, 1876.

Messrs. J. Henderson & Co., Booksellers, Ottawa.

GENTLEMEN,— I have pleasure in stating that the prize books procured from you for distribution at the County of Carleton Public Schools examination, gave much satisfaction. The large stock of authorized books kept by you enabled us to make a selection of books admirably adapted to our requirements, and in every respect satisfactory.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. MAY,
Superintendent Co. Carleton.

NEW EDINBURGH, 14th January, 1876.

Messrs. Henderson & Co., Booksellers, Ottawa.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to state that the books procured from you last month, for prizes for the Union Public Schools, New Edinburgh, gave entire satisfaction to our Board. From being allowed the privilege of selection, we got a superior lot of Prize Books, all being authorized at the same time, by the Department of Education.

We feel satisfied that the wants of the public in this direction can be fully supplied through the agency of the trade, without the intervention of the Bookselling Department of the Education Office.

I remain, Gentlemen, your ob't. servant,

(Signed) ROBERT CLARK,
Secretary New Edinburgh Public School Board.

We, the undersigned. Trustees of Petersville School Board, having been supplied with Prize Books through Reid & Anderson, Booksellers, London, have much pleasure in certifying to the efficiency with which our orders have been executed.

(Signed) D. CAMPBELL,
J. CAMPBELL,
GEO. HUDSON,
WM. H. ELSON,
JOHN PLATT,
WM. IRWIN.

Petersville, January 15th, 1876.

COBOURG, February 3rd, 1876.

I hereby certify that the Board of Public School Trustees, have on several occasions, obtained from Mr. J. Sailsbury, " Prize Books " from stock upon his shelves, and in every

case the Board and all concerned have been satisfied with the prices as well as the quality of the goods furnished. I also certify that the Board of Trustees of the Collegiate Institute have been supplied from the same source, and they express the same satisfaction with Mr. Sailsbury's terms, &c.

(Signed) NEWTON W. POWELL, C.M.D.,
Sec. B. P. S. I., and B. I. C. C. Institute.

CLOVER HILL, 28th January, 1876.

This is to certify that we, the undersigned Trustees, have in years past purchased Prize Books, &c., from the Educational Department, and also from booksellers, and have been better pleased with those received from the booksellers—their books giving us the best satisfaction. We have, in the first place, a greater variety of books to select from, and in the second place, it is much more convenient for us to get them from the booksellers.

(Signed) J. M. BANTING, JOHN PATTERSON, MATHEW GOODWIN,
Trustees of S. S. No. 14, *Tecumseth.*

CHAS. GILROY, WM. MCKNIGHT, WM. SPIERS,
Trustees of S. S. No. 4, *Essa.*

We, the undersigned, Trustees of the Public Schools, Ottawa, hereby certify to our entire satisfaction with the efficiency and promptitude with which Messrs. Durie & Son, Stationers, have filled the orders given them for books by the Board, for the use of the schools under our charge.

(Signed) EDWARD BARBER,
For the Board.

Ottawa, 26th January, 1876.

We, the undersigned, Trustees of S. S. No. 12, Emily, beg to certify that we purchased Prize Books for our school from Mr. Porter, Bookseller, Lindsay, and were highly pleased with the same, and further, that the selection equalled, if not surpassed, any Prize Books we ever had in this section.

(Signed) THOMAS MATTHEWS,
JOHN SCULLY,
WM. O'NEIL.

Raeboro', January 10th, 1876.

ST. VINCENT, 10th January, 1876.

We, the undersigned, Trustees of School Section No. 4, St. Vincent, having purchased Prize and Library Books for the Public Schools from W. K. Ireland, Bookseller, in Meaford, hereby testify that we have received more for our money, prompter attention to orders, and every way better satisfaction, than when we sent direct to the Educational Department in Toronto.

(Signed) WM. SUTTON, JOSEPH SHIELDS, WM. CLARK. } *Trustees.*

We, the undersigned, Trustees of School Section No. 7, St. Vincent, have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfaction which we received in dealing with Mr. W. K. Ireland, Bookseller and Stationer, Meaford, we having bought the books for our School Prizes through him, instead of through the Department as formerly, we having the advantage of obtaining the very books we wanted, and of a very superior binding, and at less expense and trouble than

formerly, and only two days elapsed between the giving of the order and the arrival of the books in Meaford.

Signed on behalf of Trustees,

St. Vincent, January 10th, 1876. THOS. MCINTOSH,
Secy-Treas. S. S. No. 7, St. Vincent.

This is to certify that we, the undersigned, Trustees of S. S. No. 1, Arkell P. O., Township of Puslinch, have purchased from John Anderson, Bookseller, Guelph, $25.00 worth of books for our Library, and are exceedingly well satisfied with the books, both as regards style and price.

(Signed) JAMES SCOTT,
JOSEPH BELL.

Arkell S. S. No. 1, Township of Puslinch,
31st January, 1876.

We, the undersigned, Trustees of Union S. S. No. 1, King and Whitchurch, do hereby certify, that having obtained the number of books we required for prizes, awarded, Christmas, 1875, from Alex. Scott, Bookseller, Richmond Hill, we find that we can procure a much better selection through the aforesaid bookseller, than we have obtained heretofore at the same price, from the Provincial Book Department.

(Signed) JOHN STEWART,
Oak Ridges, January 31st, 1876. JOHN FEATHERSTONE.

January 31st, 1876.

Having selected the Prize Books which were distributed December 22nd, 1875, in Union S. S. No, 1, King and Whitchurch, I have no hesitation in saying, that the books received from Mr. Scott, Bookseller, Richmond Hill, are superior to any lot of books that I ever selected from the Education Department.

(Signed) T. MCMAHON,
Principal, Oak Ridges,

GUELPH, January 29th, 1876.

MR. J. ANDERSON, Bookseller, Guelph.

SIR,—We beg to inform you, that the prize books received from you in March 1875 have given entire satisfaction to the whole section.

Yours respectfully, JOHN BOLTON,
(Signed) HUGH NISBET,
GEO. B. MEDCALF.

BUTTONVILLE, December 21st, 1875.

We, the undersigned, Public School Trustees of School Section No. 5, Markham, have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfaction given us in obtaining our prizes of a bookseller, through the agency of Mr. Scott, of Richmond Hill. We consider the books thus obtained to be better value for our money than those heretofore obtained from the *Depository.*

(Signed) ALEX. DUNN,
JONATHAN SLATER,
WILLIAM LUNAN. } *Trustees.*

I have much pleasure in endorsing what the Trustees have stated above. Having had no difficulty in making my selection at a bookseller's while frequently at the Depository, it has been a difficult matter to get suitable books and suitable prices.

Dec. 21st, 1876. (Signed) WM. L. NICHOLLS,
Teacher S. S. No. 5. Markham.

Paper No. 6.

MEMORANDUM ON "TESTIMONIALS TO BOOKSELLERS," BY DR. MAY, TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

1. M. A. James, Baltimore, says: "The Prize Books that we received *from you* through J. Salisbury, Cobourg, to the amount of $80, were a superior class of books to those received from the Educational Depository heretofore. Those received from the latter place were usually soiled more or less with rough handling, such as they receive from the hands of the young officers in charge of the Book Depository."

Remarks.—This is strangely at variance with Mr. James's own statement to this Department. In March, 1874, when Teacher of S. S. 14, Darlington, he says: "We have gone to the Department and selected books ourselves twice or three times, and we have sent the money several times and requested you to select for us, and we must say that *your selection* has *proved equally* as *satisfactory* as *our own* in *every case*. The books too that we receive are *good ones* and are *marked lower* than in many of *the book stores*, for instance, *we received* a few poetical works with our last selection, nicely bound, *price* $1.10 *each*; the same style of binding and really the same edition we find at the book stores *marked* $1.50." April 3rd, 1874. "The parcel of Prize Books have arrived all "O. K." the selection will suit."

As Mr. James in his letter to Messrs. Campbell & Son, orders some books which he was desirous of getting at reduced rates, the inference is, that Mr. James was desirous of currying favour for his own personal advantage even at the expense of truth.

2. Robert Clark, New Edinburgh. "From being allowed the privilege of selection we got a superior lot of Prize Books."

Remarks.—The Trustees and Teachers have the option of selecting Books at the Depository, of sending list, or leaving the selection to the Department. We have never changed our rules in that respect.

It is worthy of notice that the testimonial signed by Rev. Mr. May, and that signed by Mr. Clark, are both in the same hand-writing, and were evidently forwarded to those gentlemen to sign, being worded to suit the convenience of the parties interested.

3. *Trustees of Tecumseth.*—"We have a greater variety of books to select from."

Remarks.—We cannot imagine how the booksellers can have a greater variety for them to select from. The fact is, that not one-tenth part of the authorised books are kept by the booksellers in country stores, and as they say "it is much more convenient for us to get them from the booksellers" it would be well to ascertain who these booksellers are, for, in this case too, the testimonial is signed by Trustees of two different Townships. This is a case in which the bookseller acts as a School Trustee.

4. *Trustees of St. Vincent.*—"We have received decidedly more for our money, &c."

Remarks.—As the booksellers sell at the same rate as the Depository, this is simply an impossibility.

5. *Trustees S. S. No. 7, St. Vincent.*—"We having the advantage of obtaining the very books we wanted, and of a superior binding, and at less expense and trouble than formerly."

Remarks.—As the books are precisely the same in binding and price, both at the Depository and booksellers, it would be difficult for Mr. McIntosh to prove the accuracy of his statement.

6. *Trustees of King and Whitchurch.*—"Having obtained the number of books from Alex. Scott, Richmond Hill, we find that we can procure a much better selection through the aforesaid bookseller, than we have obtained heretofore at the same price from the Provincial Book Department."

Remarks.—How is it possible to obtain a better selection when they are the very same publications? It seems absurd to suppose that a small book-store at Richmond Hill has a greater variety of books than can be found at the Depository.

7. *S. S. 5, Markham.*—"Have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfaction given us in obtaining our prizes of a bookseller, through the agency of Mr. Scott, of Richmond Hill."

Remarks.—It seems from this, that Mr. Scott is the agent for supplying the books.

Mr. James also refers to Messrs. Campbell and Son supplying the books through J. Salisbury, Cobourg.

Paper No. 7.

REMARKS AND OPINIONS OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES ON PRIZE AND LIBRARY BOOKS SENT OUT FROM THE EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY.

Received up to the Middle of 1875.

As to the satisfaction felt by the School Trustees and others, to whom these requisites were sent, we make the following extracts from letters received at the Department, viz. :—

Town of Lindsay.—"Please accept my best thanks, for the choice selection you have made me for our Library. Also, for the beautiful township prize. Everyone is delighted with it. We have enquired at some book stores as to price of our library books, and find your terms such as you state them to be. The best thing Doctor Ryerson can do, is to publish his prices with those of the booksellers. It will be the best possible advertisement. What I have seen stated somewhere, is perfectly true as to the advantage to booksellers derived from your establishment. The more libraries established through the country the greater the taste for reading, and the larger the trade to gratify that taste. '*L'appetit vient en mangeant*,' is as true of reading as of eating."

Township of Hullett.—"The books you sent us last year gave satisfaction."

Township of Euphemia.—"Your selection of prize books, last December, was very suitable."

Township of Emily.—"The prizes sent gave the greatest satisfaction, and we hope to send for similar favours once or twice a year."

Township of Raleigh.—"We got a No. 1 package of prize books last year which was very satisfactory."

Township of Osborne.—"The books ($40 worth) which we received last year from the Department, for a township competitive examination, gave entire satisfaction, and the Council begs you will make the selection for this year also of $80 worth."

Township of Blanford.—"You made a selection for us last year, and the selection suited us very well. Will you have the kindness to make one again ?"

Township of Pakenham.—"Permit me to thank you for your courtesy in sending the prizes at the time you did for the Township competitive examination. The 61 volumes were excellent books."

Village of Kincardine.—"Your selection last year suited admirably well."

Township of Kincardine.—"I might state that the effect produced by these fine (merit) cards, is charming. I consider them far superior to prize books."

Township of Dawn.—"The prize books for this school section were duly received, and gave excellent satisfaction."

Township of Dorchester South.—"We ordered prize books last year, leaving you to make the selection, and as you pleased us so well, we leave it with you this time also, believing you will send us a good selection."

Township of Minto.—"The books you sent last year pleased very well. You are better qualified to make the selection than we are, and by doing so will much oblige."

Township of Marmora.—"We got a lot of prize books last year, and the year before, which gave good satisfaction."

Renfrew Union School.—"You have favoured us by making an excellent selection of such books for some years already, and I trust that I may rely on your kind promise of continuing to do so."

Township of Brighton and Murray (Union Section).—"We have received, and are pleased with the books for prizes."

Township of Woodhouse.—"I find the merit cards you sent a useful incentive to study."

Township of Camden East.—"Having just received a lot of prize books for our day school, with which we were well-pleased, we think we cannot do better than to send to the Department for a Sabbath School Library."

Village of Clinton.—"We are very much pleased with your selection."

County of Hastings, N. R.—"I have great pleasure in stating that the prize books selected by the Department gave general satisfaction."

Town of Brockville.—"We prefer your selection to our own."

Township of Hullett.—"In previous years we have had every reason to be pleased with the assortment sent from your Department, and merely forward you the above information for your guidance in selection."

Township of Moore.—"The selection of books by the Department last year was excellent, and we intend to leave the choice to you again."

Township of Flamboro' West.—"I find that the merit cards are a great assistance to the teacher."

Township of Nelson.—"The selection of prize books made by the Department last year, gave great satisfaction; we, therefore, leave the selection on this occasion with it also."

Township of Admaston.—"Trustees and teachers are beginning to see the benefits resulting from the merit and prize system, and to adopt it in their schools."

Township of Normanby.—"I should likewise take this opportunity of remarking that the Department, in the different selections which it has made for the Trustees requiring prizes, with whom I have been employed, has always given the greatest satisfaction."

Township of Keppel.—"At the annual meeting of our school section, held last Wednesday, we passed a resolution appropriating a portion of the school fund to the purchase of some books for a section library from the Education Department. It was well expressed by one man at the meeting—'when we learn our youth to read, *if we do not give good books into their hands they will find bad ones.*'"

Town of St. Thomas, Union School.—"And have great pleasure in stating the selection by the Department of prize books is very satisfactory."

Village of Farmersvile Grammar School.—"During the year, $30 worth of new prizes were distributed with pleasing results as far as can be judged. I deem it no inconsiderable thing to have the pleasure of distributing such an amount of sterling English reading among the youth of the country. The effects cannot be estimated, but are in the hands of Providence. With every prospect of increased success during the year, and every wish to advance the prosperity of the educational system of the Province of Ontario, I am," &c.

Township of Huntingdon.—"I once sent to you for some (books) for our school section, and they gave good satisfaction."

Township of Saugeen.—"We were much pleased with the selection of books we received from your Department last June."

Village of Chippewa.—"The books gave *every satisfaction.*"

Township of Dereham.—"Your selection last year gave satisfaction, so you can also make it this year."

Township of Westminster.—"We received some certificate cards along with the books for which we sent last summer, and the children were so much pleased with them that I promised a certificate of 'regular attendance' to any one who should not miss one day until Christmas."

Township of Westminster.—"We sent for and obtained prize books last year, and were *so much pleased* with the selection made by the Department."

Township of Gower North.—"Last year we sent $5 to the Education Department, and received a package of prize books, with which we were well pleased."

Township of Gower North.—"The prize books, etc. (package No. 1), which you sent us, acted like a charm on our little ones."

Township of Moore.—"I got last year from the Department of Education, prize books to the value of $50, the selection being most excellent."

Township of Dumfries North.—"The last prize books we had here were a selection made by you, with which we were highly pleased, and we thought we would let you select for us again."

Township of Dumfries South.—"Your own selection is preferred to ours."

Township of Hallowell.—"We received the prizes from you, and can say in return that

they gave general satisfaction. They created an interest in the section, both among scholars and parents, which has not been aroused before."

Township of Binbrook.—"We have received the package of books all right, and the Trustees were much pleased with your excellent selection. They have given good satisfaction."

Town of Goderich.—"The selection generally, I may say always, made by the Department has given me the greatest satisfaction."

Township of Augusta.—"I am pleased to say that our most sanguine hopes were *more* than realized in the truly *excellent* selection."

Village of Port Rowan.—"These prizes are to be selected at your discretion, and I may add that your last selection gave unusual satisfaction."

City of London.—"We were well suited last year with your selection, and will again leave it to you."

Townships of Ancaster and West Flamboro'.—"The Trustees express their entire satisfaction with the parcel sent. More appropriate books, etc., could not have been selected, and we hope you will accept our hearty thanks for your kindness in remitting so promptly."

Township of . ownsend.—"Permit us to express the most unbounded satisfaction in the management of the Depository. We believe it to be honestly and ably conducted, and with a full appreciation of the object to be attained."

Township of Townsend.—"The prizes sent were all that could be desired."

Township of Charlottenburgh.—"The books you generally send are very suitable, and have a marked effect on the pupils of the school."

Township of Dorchester North.—"Leaving you to make the selection, as we have been well satisfied with the selections you have made for us before.

Township of Maryboro'.—"I return you my sincere thanks for your punctual despatch and admirable selection of prize books. If I had been present myself I think I could not have suited the section better."

Township of Usborne.—"As we have got prizes from the Department, both for the section and the township, to our great satisfaction."

Township of Walpole.—"As your selection of books suits us better than our own, we therefore request that you will again make a selection for us."

Township of Harwich.—"We leave the selection of the books with you. This was the method adopted last year, and we were well satisfied with the selection.

Township of Walpole.—"The Trustees having supplied their schools with prize books from the Educational Department for a number of years, and being highly pleased with the books, have determined to send thirty dollars in a few days for another supply."

Township of Tuckersmith.—"Your package of books was received, and gave every satisfaction."

Township of Ops.—"Your former selections have pleased us, so if you cannot make the selection correspond with these prizes, make it correspond to them as nearly as you can, and we will be satisfied."

Township of Gosfield.—"On behalf of the Teacher and Trustees of this school section, we beg to compliment you on the prizes you have selected for us."

Township of Darlington.—"The books distributed gave entire satisfaction, and were the best lot of books I ever saw for the money."

Portland.—"Last June I sent $5 to the Department for prizes, and I was well pleased with the selection. . . . I think that I can do much better at the Education Department than elsewhere."

Township of Elizabethtown.—"Permit us to say that the selection of prize books by the Department for this school, last midsummer, *was so satisfactory that we find it greatly to our advantage* to submit the selection to the Department again."

Township of Mersea.—"The prize books you sent us last year gave good satisfaction. We would like you to select the prizes this year."

Township of Walpole.—"The Trustees have left the choice of the prize books to the Board of Education. They have selected prize books for said section for 1871 and 1872, which suited well. Please select Prize Books for 1873.

Township of Marlborough.—"The prizes we received here acted like a charm ; the little children like to come to school much better. The parents, seeing them so anxious to learn,

keep them much better supplied with books than formerly. We would leave the choice of the prizes entirely to the Department."

Township of Ekfrid.—"They (the merit cards) have caused a great excitement among the scholars; much more than we had any expectation of. But we find that we have not sent for enough single merits, as there is a much larger attendance now than there was before we gave the merits."

Township of Mulmur.—"Being desirous of obtaining a good Sabbath School Library for our Sabbath School, we thought we could not suit ourselves better than by making application to your Department for it. We got a small supply (of books) early in the summer and, as they gave good satisfaction, we agreed to increase our library this fall with a select number of books from your Depository."

Township of Walsingham.—"The enclosed amount is for the purpose of getting some more prize books similar to those you sent this spring to us, with which we were highly pleased; and the books for the library exceeded our highest expectation. The selection and material surpasses anything we have ever got before from any other establishment. We intend sending for about the same amount again this winter. We were so highly pleased with them that we intend to enlarge our library. We cannot lay out our money better, and our neighbouring sections are doing the same and intend to send to the Department instead of purchasing from London and other places."

Township of Walpole.—"I may mention that the selection you made before for us was satisfactory."

Town of Picton.—"The chemical apparatus ordered by us has been duly received in good order, and is likely to give entire satisfaction. The Department has our best thanks for the care displayed in the selection."

Township of Middleton.—"I sent forty dollars for prizes and maps last winter, and I was well pleased with them; they gave universal satisfaction."

Township of Waterloo.—"They wish to leave the selection to you, as they feel confident that your selection will prove satisfactory."

Township of Dover East.—"We leave selection to the Department as we have heretofore received satisfaction. Have the kindness to take into consideration that ours is a Catholic section."

Township of Sarnia.—"Last year the trustees of this section obtained from the Department Prize Package No. 1, which gave good satisfaction."

City of Ottawa.—"With regard to the selection of the prizes, I leave it entirely to the Department, being satisfied that, judging from the past, a judicious choice will be made."

Township of Manvers.—"For the remainder, both special and general prizes, the selection will be left entirely to the Department, as the selections of last year gave perfect satisfaction."

Township of Stephen.—"We scarcely know how to select, but will trust to your judgment to send us good, sound literature, as the last you sent gave good satisfaction."

Village of Omemee.—"Please make the selection. The Department's choice has always been satisfactory."

Union School, Williamstown.—"We leave the selection to you, with the assurance that you will on this occasion afford us the same satisfaction you have heretofore given us."

Township of Blandford.—"As you well suited us in the past five consecutive years, the selection is again left to you."

Townships of Eldon and Mariposa.—"We left the selection to the Department last year, and were satisfied that they were better than we c uld select, and we therefore leave it to you this year also."

Townships of Albion and Chinguacousy.—"The last selection of books you sent us gave good satisfaction, and we leave it to the Department to select for us this time also."

Townships of Yonge and E. R.—"Being well pleased with your selection last year, we again ask you to select about 100 prizes."

Township of Mara.—"We have received the package of books in good order. They gave great satisfaction to th trustees, parents and children of the school. We are satisfied that we could not get as good a selection from any book-store in the county."

Township of Logan.—"The parcel of books which you have caused to be sent to us have arrived safely and they have given great satisfaction."

Township of Fitzroy.—"I beg to return you thanks for the good selection which you have made and sent us this time; they are superior to any prizes we have received yet."

Township of Pittsburgh.—"The trustees directed me to say that the parcel of prize books sent in 1872-3 was entirely satisfactory—every book sent for by them was forwarded by the Depository promptly, and that, only for the extremely liberal grant given by the Department, they could not face their constituents after expending *any* sum on either maps or prize books, and they sincerely hope that the system of granting $100 on remittances will be continued."

Township of Elizabethtown.—"Please send me down by express $10 worth of books, &c., suitable for prizes for the children. I need not specify; you can select what is suitable for them better than I could direct."

Township of Lochiel.—"Permit me to return you thanks for the selection of prize books, which were duly received, and gave great satisfaction."

Township of Plympton.—"The books sent are the best selection of prizes they (the trustees) ever got."

Township of Collingwood.—"The books sent us last year suited very well. Will you have the k ndness to make a selection for us again?"

Township of Crowland.—"We received the prizes from you, and can say in return that they give general satisfaction. They created an interest in the Section, both among scholars and parents, which has not been aroused before."

Township of Matilda.—"As your selections are generally preferred, and in every instance with which we are acquainted, have proved satisfactory, so we refer this selection to you."

Townships of Norwich, N & S.—"Your selection of prizes on two previous occasions has given good satisfaction, so we send this list rather for your guidance than as an absolute rule. If there are any of the articles asked for which you have not in stock, send such others as in your judgment may be nearest those sought."

Township of Trafalgar.—"Both children and parents were well pleased with the selection they received last year."

Township of Zorra West.—"I may state that the selection of prize books made in December for the school by the Department proved highly satisfactory."

Township of Innisfil.—"Those (prize books) you sent have given such good satisfaction that we will soon send again."

Inspector, County of Haldimand.—"I was very much pleased with the prize books sent by the Department, and will urge Trustees to apply to you for semi-annual supplies of them."

Township of Zorra East.—"We should like the same care taken in selection, and books of the larger size, averaging from thirty to eighty cents each."

Township of Normanby.—"Accept our sincere thanks for the books and cards received from the Education Office, especially for the German books, which are very interesting, useful and instructive."

Township of Dorchester, N.—"The globes are everything that could be expected; they are a credit to the makers."

Township of Bruce.—"We feel very well satisfied with the selection you made for us."

Township of Colborne.—"The selection made for me by the Department has always been most satisfactory."

Townships of Crosby, N. and S.—"The selection made by the Department last time was so excellent that it is again left to it—only suggesting that a few toys, instead of books, would be as well for the smaller pupils."

Township of Essa.—"We were well satisfied with your selection last year."

Village of Colborne.—"Your last selection was very satisfactory."

Township of Chinguacousy.—"In the selection of books that you sent us in March last, we found several excellent books, and we therefore leave the selection to the Department again."

Township of Thurlow.—"We leave the selection of the books, &c., with you, for those we received last year were all that could be desired, and you selected them."

Township of Blandford.—"The selection being left with you, as you have suited us by your selection for the last four years."

Township of Nissouri, W.—"Having seen a selection of prize books sent from your Depository, I feel confident you will select books as good as possible at the price."

Township of Yonge Front.—"The maps and T. R. Lessons I purchased at the Depository in October last, I am glad to say, have given not only satisfaction to the trustees, but a real pleasure to the teacher and scholars. The Tablet Reading Lessons are certainly necessary for small children reading the first book."

Township of Wellesley.—"The selection we leave to you, as that you made for us for two years previously was better than we could have made ourselves; and the books you sent gave complete satisfaction to all."

Township of Minto.—"The packages of prize books we have previously got from the Department have given us great satisfaction."

City of Ottawa.—"We were very much pleased with the Department's selection for 'Teacher's Library,' and therefore leave the choice of this prize lot entirely to yourself."

Union School, Williamstown.—"We will leave, as on former occasions, the selection of the books to your superior judgment."

Township of Beverley.—"As the selections heretofore made by the Department have given satisfaction, we leave them to be made as on former occasions."

Township of Vespra.—"The trustees desire me to say, that the packages they received in the year 1870 gave good satisfaction."

Township of Fitzroy.—"The selection you will please make yourself, as we were well pleased with books &c., sent us in March last."

Farmersville.—"We are highly pleased with the maps, apparatus, &c., sent to our school at the beginning of the present year. The maps in particular, give universal satisfaction. We have no sympathy whatever with those who speak and write disparagingly of the praiseworthy efforts of the Department."

Township of Bayham.—"You gave good satisfaction in answer to similar order last year, and I feel confident that you can do better than if I attempt to select from the catalogue myself."

Township of Innisfil.—"We leave the selection to you. We were well satisfied with those you sent last year."

Township of Mariposa.—"We got a package (prizes) last year, and it was better than those we could select."

Township of Moore.—"The selections of former years were entirely to our minds; therefore, we leave the matter wholly in your hands."

Township of Saltfleet.—"We have been getting prize books some seven years, and have always been satisfied before."

Township of Brock.—"Your last selection gave entire satisfaction."

Township of Mariposa.—"We are highly pleased with the prizes we got from the Department. There are some excellent books among them. Our school is very prosperous this year—I believe partly due to competition for prizes by merit cards."

City of Ottawa—(Inspector P. S.)—"I have much pleasure in expressing my satisfaction with the selection of works made by the officers of the Department, both in the Teachers' Library and the Christmas prizes."

Township of Mara.—"We leave the choice of the articles to you. We did so before, and were well pleased at the result."

Township of Raleigh.—"We offer you our thanks for the very suitable prize books we received in November last, which gave general satisfaction."

Township of Townsend.—"Your last selection was so suitable and appropriate, that we leave the choice again in your hands."

Township of Williams West.—"The last library we procured contained books, chiefly on *Adventures in Hunting*, &c., which appeared to excite an interest for reading in the section, and satisfied all parties."

Township of Fenelon—"We thought the last assortment was beautifully selected."

Township of Keppel.—"The books you have sent have arrived safe and in good order, and we were very well pleased with them."

Township of Whitby West.—"Your selections in previous years for our school have given satisfaction, and we prefer leaving it with you again, to making our own selection."

Township of Williamsburg.—"I received your merit cards, and was well pleased with them."

Township of Grantham.—"The books you sent us last year gave satisfaction."

Township of Manvers.—"We are well pleased with what we received before, and again leave them (prize books) to your selection."

Township of Sydenham.—"The library books we obtained last year gave great satisfaction."

Township of Gloucester.—"We received the package (prizes) last year, and were well pleased with them."

Township of Puslinch.—"The package of prize books and the map of the world sent from the Department were in every respect found to be satisfactory."

Township of Esquesing.—"Last year you selected the books for us; the selection giving good satisfaction."

Township of Dereham.—"Though we did not receive all the books we sent for, still those selected in their places were very appropriate."

Township of Egremont.—"We leave you to make the selection, as we have always got satisfaction in the past."

Township of Marmora.—"I think it is seven times I have gotten prize books from the Department, and always with good satisfaction."

Township of Petewawa.—"You will please accept our thanks for your very good and appropriate selection of books, and the many little pleasing extras you so kindly put in, which I feel sure will all help to elevate our schools still more."

Township of Haldimand.—"The books and papers ordered at your office give the best satisfaction, for which accept our thanks."

(Received by the Department up to the end of 1876.)

Township of Saugeen.—"Your last selection gave good satisfaction."

Township of Mara.—"Your selections always pleased and we solicit your selection once more.

"We hope all machinations against the Depository will fail, and the Government may not hearken to the voice of interested persons, but still continue the Book-store under the present competent control."

Township of West Flamboro'.—"The selections of which (the prizes) the Trustees leave to you, as the last lot gave complete satisfaction."

Township of Seneca.—"The collection of books we received formerly from the Department was highly esteemed."

Township of Harwich.—"As this is the sixth time that we have got prize books from the Education Department since I have taught in the section, and you have always selected the books for us and given general satisfaction, it is my wish and the wish of the Trustees for you to do so this year again."

Township of Darlington.—"We have gone to the Department and selected books ourselves twice or three times, and we have sent the money several times and requested you to select for us, and we must say, that your selection has proved equally as satisfactory as our own in every case. The books too, that we receive are good ones, and are marked lower than in many of the book-stores. For instance we received a few poetical works with our last selection, nicely bound, price, $1.10 each, the same style of binding and really the same edition we find at the book-stores marked $1.50. You will please make the selection as early as possible."

Township of Moulton.—"We received the maps, and are well pleased, as they have given us good satisfaction; returning you our sincere thanks and well wishes."

Town of Picton.—"Thanks for your prompt reply and courteous explanations. The Dominion map you describe will answer our purpose very well."

Township of Minto.—"The prizes have come to hand. We are very much pleased with the selection: they give good satisfaction."

Township of Minto.—"The prize package arrived safely, and the books, etc., gave unqualified satisfaction."

Township of Plympton.—"The selection of prizes you made for us last year was excellent, and gave good satisfaction. Please make us a selection this year, and you will greatly oblige."

City of Hamilton.—"The parcels which we got from you in former years gave great satisfaction."

Town of Lindsay.—"Our Trustees and people are delighted with the library books I brought them from the Depository. They are the best we ever got."

Township of Morrison.—"Having purchased large quantities of prize books from the Department at different times, and being well pleased therewith, I thought I would write for your catalogue."

Township of McGillivray.—"We are well satisfied with the books we have retained."

Township of Darlington.—"The parcel of prize books has arrived all O. K. The selection will suit."

Township of Scugog.—"Some time since the Trustees sent to the Department for prize books, which came to hand in good order and were well selected."

Township of Cumberland.—"You will please make a selection of books, cards, etc. You made a selection a year ago for us which pleased us well."

Township of Osprey.—"The Trustees desire to purchase prizes for the school, and have had good satisfaction in the past from the Education Department."

Township of Elma.—I have enclosed $9 for more books for our Sunday School Library. The books you sent before suit very well."

Town of Brockville.—"Your former selection very satisfactory."

Township of Cutross.—"We enclose list of books in our library; please send something different, and a few suitable for adult reading, such as Chambers' Works; you can make a better selection than we can, so we leave it to you."

Township of Ekfrid.—"The books are all that we could desire."

Township of Huron.—"The books we got last December satisfied us well, and we all thought they were well chosen."

Town of Simcoe.—"I thank you for your courtesy, and the promptness with which you have responded to my inquiries."

Township of Egremont.—"The three parcels transmitted came in good order, as they left the Department. Splendid maps. etc.

Township of Mara.—"The school is one-third Protestant and two-thirds Roman Catholic, and you have always sent what gave entire satisfaction."

Township of Beverley.—"We leave the selection to you, as the books received last year gave good satisfaction."

Township of Ancaster.—"We again apply to you for our annual supply of Prize Books, and have much pleasure in stating that, in the course of the last five years, we have received uniform satisfaction at the hands of the Education Department. We have good reason to know that your stock is better adapted to the purpose of schools than any other, and, as long as we are treated as fairly as we have been in the past, we will continue to patronize you."

Township of Sydenham.—"In selecting these prizes the Trustees would prefer that they should not consist so exclusively of books as is usual, for the little globes, microscopes, &c., which have been sometimes sent, have been much more valued by the children."

Township of Plympton.—"We left it last year for you to select for us and we were well satisfied."

Hamilton.—"I believe I have been at the Education Office for books, maps, &c., more frequently and for greater quantities than any other person, and it affords me pleasure to be able to state that on all occasions and from every person about the office I have received attention of the kindest nature, and all the assistance I could desire. The prize books have given us very great satisfaction. Your arrangements are about perfect, and your assistants pleasant and attentive."

Township of Saugeen.—"Your selection, the last we received, gave entire satisfaction."

Town of Paisley.—"The selection is left in the hands of the Department. We were much pleased with the books, &c., forwarded last year."

Village of Harriston.—"We have always been well satisfied with what prizes we got."

Township of Plympton.—"The selection of prizes which you made for us last year gave good satisfaction. Please make a selection this year."

Township of Norwich, S.—"As we are confident the Department will be better able to make the selections than we are, even from catalogues, we merely give a description of our school."

Township of Gwillimbury, E.—"I suppose there ought to have been duplicate copies of the list of books, and one sent to J. Campbell & Son, and the other to the Department. If so, we should have had that information from the booksellers at the time of purchase. We shall know better next time we want books than to go on such a round about way, but send direct to the Department."

Township of Marysburgh S.—"The Trustees beg to tender their thanks, and to say that the goods received reflect great credit upon the Department for the excellent manner in which they are got up, and are alike creditable to all concerned."

Township of Waterloo.—"Our previous order arrived duly, and proved highly satisfac-factory."

Town of Orillia.—"I obtained some very beautiful reward cards from you some time since, and they gave such good satisfaction that I wish to trouble you for more."

County Durham.—"The books were received in good order, and gave the best of satisfaction."

Garden Island.—"We would beg to acknowledge receipt of the articles ordered for the use of our school. Our teacher says they give him every satisfaction."

Garden Island.—"We received the articles in good order to-day, thanks to your promptness."

Township of Lochiel.—"We beg that you will make the selection, as the books selected on a former occasion gave every satisfaction."

City of London.—"Your books came to hand in good order, and I think will give good satisfaction."

Township of Gwillimbury N.—"As you have selected for me some six or eight times, and with good satisfaction, I send to you instead of purchasing at the book-store."

Township of Richmond.—"The books you sent us came to hand per express all right, and have given every satisfaction to the school and the section generally."

Township of Brantford.—"We received prize books selected by Department, and are well pleased with the assortment. Our board also received box of books for our library that were selected by our County Inspector of Schools, and I am happy to say that the same give general satisfaction in our section."

Township of Charlottenburgh.—"The books and maps were duly received in good order, and are satisfactory."

Township of Tyendinaga.—"The library books received from the Department of Public Instruction are very much liked."

Township of Brock.—"The different packages (maps) came to hand in good order, and the contents are all that could be desired. Thanking you for the completeness with which you have filled the order."

Township of Hillier.—"The library books came to hand in good order; and, as far as I am able to ascertain, are well received by the inhabitants of said section."

Township of Lochiel.—"The assortment (prizes) gives full satisfaction, and will be the means, I have no doubt, of inducing those here interested to continue making annual application."

Township of Dumfries, S.—"The library books that we purchased from the Education Depository came all right and were accepted. We think them a very good selection as far as they go."

Township of Nottawasaga.—"We received the last packages of prize and library books sent to us from the Depository. We thank you for having made such a good selection, fully adapted to the wants of our school."

Township of Hullett (R. C. S. S.)—"We received the prizes, and are happy to inform you that they have given entire satisfaction."

Township of Trafalgar.—"The parcel of books received, and the selection very satisfactory."

Township of Adjala.—"We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your last package of books. The selection was made by our teacher and was a very good one indeed, as every one in the section is pleased with the books."

Township of Caradoc.—"The prize books sent to fill our last order, although they did not agree with the list accompanying it, were unhesitatingly accepted by trustees and teacher, who were unanimous in their opinion as to the suitability of the books to the wants of the

school. The trustees cheerfully accept this opportunity to express their thanks for the promptitude with which all calls on the Depository have been attended to."

Township of Crumahe.—"The prize books gave very good satisfaction, particularly those in the list that we ordered."

Township of Ramsay.—"I received the maps and prize books all safe, and am very well satisfied with them."

Port Colborne.—"We are perfectly satisfied with the selection you sent (prize books). The books were all that we could desire for the Separate School."

Paris, R. C. S. S.—"The (library) books have given general satisfaction, and the trustees are thankful for the services rendered by your Department."

Township of Fredericksburg, S.—"The prize books came to hand in good order, and, with but few exceptions, were well adapted to the requirements of the school."

Township of Brighton.—"The prize books gave good satisfaction to all parties concerned —pupils, teacher and trustees; and allow me to add that they were superior to what I expected."

Township of Trafalgar.—"The selection (library books) was made by the Inspector of Public Schools, at the request of the trustees, and we believe the books gave general satisfaction in the section."

Township of Goulbourn.—"The prize books which we sent for to the People's Depository came all right and in good order. They are well adapted to the wants of the school. Thanks for the care taken in the selection."

Township of Brock.—"We received from the Department the number of books ordered by us in good order, and we think them a very good selection for the classes of this school.

Township of Storrington.—"We were very well pleased with your selection (of prize books). The binding and style were good, considering the price, and as to the reading (thus far) as we are enabled to judge, it is most excellent."

Township of Morris.—"The selection (of prize books) was very good. We have nothing to complain of. Many thanks for them."

Barrie, R. C. S. S.—"As both prize and library books were selected by myself they were quite satisfactory, and suitable to the wants of the pupils."

Township of Middleton.—"We received the books in due time and were well satisfied with the selection."

Alliston.—"We received the prize books all right according to order and were well satisfied with the selection. The books were selected partly by ourselves and partly by the officers of the Depository. We think the Depository a grand Institution, and so far as we see, the material, well adapted for the good of the children. I shall use my endeavors to have a library in our school."

Brantford.—"We received the prize books and maps in good order and were well pleased with them."

Port Colborne.—"The maps and prize books which we purchased recently from the Department are in our opinion much cheaper than we could have obtained them from the booksellers, and the maps especially are excellent and well adapted for the use of schools. The prize books too must have given general satisfaction as we have not heard a word of complaint."

Township East Hope, S.—"We received the prizes in time for the examination, and as the selection was left to the Depository we feel bound to say that they were all that could be desired, many people expressing the opinion that they had never seen as nice a selection before."

Township of Bentinck.—"The prizes received from the People's Depository were highly satisfactory to the Trustees."

Township of Elma.—"Received the books in good condition; they gave good satisfaction to teacher, children and parents. Every one considered them a very suitable and handsome selection for prizes."

Township of Glenelg.—"The books gave good satisfaction and were well selected for the purpose."

Township of Elizabethtown.—"We received the prizes in good order and have much pleasure in stating that they suited well."

Township of Hullett.—"We received the prize books from the Department all in good order, and they are perfectly suitable for our school."

Township of Huron.—"We were well pleased with the prize books."

Brantford.—"The books sent to us have been duly received with satisfaction."

Township of Scarboro'.—"The books were selected by the teacher, and were approved by the Board of Trustees as very suitable for distribution as prizes in the school."

Township of Hullett.—"We received the prizes all safe, and in a good state, and are well satisfied with the selection, having a few books to spare."

Township of Brock.—"The books arrived safe, and in good order. They were well selected, and gave good satisfaction."

Township of Townsend.—"Received from the People's Education Depository, prize books. The selection was satisfactory."

Township of Caradoc.—"With regard to the library books you sent us, they came to hand in good order and gave good satisfaction, both in regard to quality and price. Your catalogue is acknowledged by all to whom I have shown it, to be the most complete one they ever saw; and I would recommend all parties that are getting libraries to go to the Department for their books."

Township of Collingwood.—"The selection (prizes), was satisfactory, and in every respect adapted to the wants of the school."

Township of Melancthon.—"With pleasure we state that the maps and apparatus sent, were received in good order and give good satisfaction."

Township of Ancaster.—"We having received prize books from your Depository, do say, having examined the same, that we are well satisfied with them; and think they are well adapted for prizes in a country school like ours."

Township of Flamboro' W.—"Received the prizes all safe, and the Trustees and I were perfectly satisfied with them."

Township of Oxford E.—"I beg to acknowledge receipt of package of prize books in good order. I am also authorized to state that as part of the books were selected by the Department, that part was good, and the whole gave satisfaction."

Township of Brunel.—"Received package of books from the Department for prizes in our school, which are highly satisfactory to all."

Township of Kincardine.—"The package of prize books you sent has been delivered in good order, and we are well satisfied with them."

Township of Markham.—"My Trustees request me to state that the prize books selected last have given better satisfaction than any heretofore procured from the Depository."

Township of Waterloo.—"We received the prize books, and were very well pleased with the selection."

Township of Cashel.—"We have received the prize and library books all safe and sound; and as for the selection, for my part I am well pleased."

Township of Tecumseth.—"The books (from the Department), give general satisfaction."

County of Lincoln.—"The very fine collection of books sent has given great satisfaction."

Township of Ops.—"They were a good selection of books for price, and rendered general satisfaction

Prescott, R. C. S. S.—"The books are all very suitable, and just what we require."

Township of Houghton.—"The prize books selected for us by the Department are a splendid selection, and gave the best satisfaction to all concerned."

Palmerston.—"The books sent gave universal satisfaction."

Township of Dumfries, N.—"The selection sent from the Depository to the Trustees, was well adapted to the school as prize books."

Township of Haldimand.—"Being desirous of obtaining prize books for my school, and having been well pleased with some of your selections which I have seen, I enclose, &c. . . . Make your own selection."

Township Flamboro, W.—"Received the maps all safe—were well satisfied with them."

Township of Yonge, E. & R.—"We were much pleased with the selection last year." (prizes)

Collingwood.—"Your book gives perfect satisfaction. I was pleased at the promptitude with which you forwarded the parcel."

Township of Medora.—"The Trustees are greatly obliged for your prompt attention to their order." (prizes)

Township of Fredericksburgh, S.—"Your selection of books just received is admirable, and fully justifies the confidence placed in your judgment by the Trustees of the school section."

Township of Tossorontio.—"I have examined the prize books you sent to the Trustees, and found them suitable in every particular and in good order. Please accept thanks for the prompt return.

Township of Sombra.—"The prize books were in every way satisfactory, and well adapted to the wants of the school."

Township of Wainfleet.—"The prizes gave general satisfaction."

Township of Southwold.—"The prizes have given satisfaction."

Township of Leeds.—"The selection gave perfect satisfaction, both to the Trustees and also to the pupils."

Township of Manvers.—"We were well pleased with the selection of books."

Township of Colborne.—"I am sorry to have to trouble the Department in this way, as it is the first time a mistake has been made in a yearly dealing for upwards of fifteen years with this school section."

Township of Norwich, S.—"Prizes received in good order; selection pretty good."

Township of Horton.—"The catalogue seems very satisfactory."

Township of Caradoc.—"The books we ordered from the Education Department arrived in due time, and gave good satisfaction."

Township of Grimsby.—"The prizes gave good satisfaction. They are good books, and on the whole suit well."

Township of Walpole.—"The trustees beg to acknowledge prizes forwarded by the Department. Well satisfied; with thanks."

Township of Waterloo.—"Accept this as a security of the satisfaction with the prize books sent. With thanks."

Township of Cobourg.—"The selection of prize books sent from the People's Depository has given entire satisfaction."

Township of Sydenham.—"I feel much obliged for the care you have taken in avoiding works of fiction, as we requested, and still sending such a good variety of prizes."

Township of Ernestown.—"We are much pleased with the books generally, and are well satisfied we have much more than received the worth of our money. It will be the means of stimulating the children to greater exertions."

Township of Elmsley, N.—"The prizes are satisfactory."

Township of Esquesing.—"Concerning the prize books sent by the Depository, we, as a board of trustees, acknowledge that they were all that could be desired. The teacher, also, was highly pleased with them, and the scholars prized them very much. It gives us much pleasure in returning kind thanks to the Education Department."

Township of Zorra West.—"The trustees are well satisfied with the books, and think them quite suitable for the purpose intended."

Township of Egremont.—"We are one and all much pleased with the character and style of the prize books."

Township of Hay.—"We, the trustees, have received a good selection of books, which were very suitable for our school. The pupils received them with great joy."

Township of Pelham.—"Received with satisfaction ten dollars' worth of prize books."

Township of Carrick.—"We duly received our prize books selected and sent by you, and are happy to inform you they give general satisfaction."

Township of Greenock.—"The package of prize books sent from the Depository was in every way satisfactory to the trustees, and suitable to the wants of the school. Accept our thanks for the selection."

Township of Downie.—"Prizes received in good order, and quite satisfactory."

Township of Gower, N.—"The package of prize books gave general satisfaction."

(The following, relating to books sent out from the Depository in 1876 were received in 1877).

Township of Mariposa.—"The books gave everysatisfaction."

Township of Sarnia.—"The selection (of books) was very satisfactory."

Township of Warwick.—"The package of prize books gave perfect satisfaction to every one."

Township of Wilmot.—"The prize books have given satisfaction."

Township of Nissouri, W.—"The Trustees are well satisfied with the selection of prize books."

Inspector, Co. Prescott.—"I beg on behalf of the Trustees of L'Orignal Public Schools, to express their entire satisfaction with the prize books sent by the Department of Public Instruction. Package No. 2, price $16."

Vankleekhill.—"The packages of prize books have given entire satisfaction to the Head Master and the Board of Trustees."

Township of Niagara.—"The prize books selected by the Department are well adapted to the wants of the section, and give general satisfaction."

Township of Bruce.—"Received the prizes, for which we tender our sincere thanks—very well satisfied with them."

Township of Charlottenburg.—"We received your books and are well satisfied with them.

Township of Dumfries, N.—"A package of prizes for the Sabbath School. The books were selected by the Department; the selection was admirable and gave entire satisfaction to the managers."

Township of Tossorontio.—"We were well satisfied with the selection of books for prizes made by the Department, in every respect."

Township of Brantford.—"We were well pleased with the selection of books."

Township of Howick.—"The prize books which we got from the Department gave good satisfaction."

Township of Blanchard.—"We received the prize books and are well pleased with the selection made."

Township of Dumfries, N.—"The maps, library, and prize books have been received in good condition."

Township of Vespra.—"We are highly pleased with the selection of prize books, believing that we could have made no better selection ourselves."

Richmond.—"The books gave great satisfaction."

Township of Wainfleet.—"I am instructed by the Trustees to express their satisfaction concerning the prize books sent to them."

Township of Elizabethtown.—"The trustees have much pleasure in stating that they received the prize books and like them very much."

Goderich.—"The selection of prize books was left to the Department. I am informed by the Inspector and also by the Principal that the selection was good and in every way satisfactory."

Paper No. 8.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

(*Handed in to the Minister.*)

TORONTO, March 8th, 1876.

At a meeting of the booksellers of Ontario, the following resolutions were passed:—

1. The reasons which first prompted the establishment of the Book Depository at the Education Office, now no longer exist; and booksellers are fully able to supply the wants of the country.

2. The Act of 1874 was expressly framed for the purpose of allowing the booksellers the privilege of a fair competition with the Education Office; but the restrictions and regulations placed upon booksellers, are subversive of the intention of the law, and virtually annul the privilege.

3. The abuses which exist in connection with the Education Office Depository, such as supplying books to Sunday Schools and Mechanics' Institutes, and sending out books and articles that are not authorized, are contrary to the intention of the Act of 1874.

4. A deputation shall be appointed to wait on the Hon. Adam Crooks, Minister of Education, to request for booksellers freedom to supply books for libraries and prize books

for public schools, without restriction as to edition or publisher, between them and the Depository *to regulate prices*, requiring, however, that the name of each book, the author and publisher, be distinctly given on the invoice.

ROBERT REID, *Chairman.*
W. E. CAMPBELL, *Secretary.*

Note to 4 by the Deputy Minister—There is no such "restriction" as to "edition and publisher" as this resolution affirms to exist. (As to "competition" between booksellers and the Depository regulating prices, I do not see how this is practical, as the Depository has fixed the prices at 18 cents on the 1s. sterling, below which no bookseller or other person in the trade can go without loss. This price gives the Depository 10 per cent profit.)

[NOTE.—As the result of an interview had by the Deputation with the Minister of Education, the following documents were subsequently handed in by the booksellers.]

Paper No. 9.

LETTER TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION FROM SECRETARY OF BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

TORONTO, March 14th, 1876.

SIR,—In accordance with the request which you made to me on the occasion of the deputation from the Canadian Booksellers' Association waiting upon you, I have the honour to submit to you:

1. A *list of Booksellers in Ontario* whose chief business is bookselling.
2. A *list of places* where Booksellers combine the business of Druggists, &c., with their bookselling.
3. A *list of the Wholesale Booksellers* in Toronto and Montreal.

In regard to the first, I have carefully examined the reports of the Mercantile Agencies, in addition to my own personal experience, and I find that these 102 *Booksellers* have a capital of not less than $750,000, invested in the business, and that the stock of books they keep on hand regularly is not less than $500,000 in cost value.

In regard to the second list, none of the places therein mentioned are in List No. 1, and in some of these places there are two or even three different booksellers. These booksellers *all sell* and *keep stocks of books suitable for school libraries and prizes.* I estimate the capital invested in bookselling by the trade in these towns to be not less than $150,000, and the stocks usually kept on hand at not less than $100,000.

Then as to list No. 3, the capital invested by the Wholesale Booksellers in their business is not less than $400,000, and the stocks of miscellaneous books kept on hand are never less than $250,000.

We have thus:

		Capital.	Stock.
Miscellaneous books only, News Dealers &c.; numbering over 200 not included.	In the hands of Retailers	750,000	500,000
	" " " Booksellers, Druggists, &c.	150,000	100,000
	" " " Wholesalers	400,000	250,000
		$1,300,000	$850,000

If, therefore, the booksellers of Canada invested a *capital of* $1,300,000 in their business, and the public have a stock of miscellaneous books valued at *cost at* $850,000, it is self evident that booksellers are competent to carry on their own business themselves, seeing that their own interest in it is so large.

I also send herewith a printed copy of certificates showing that School Trustees are better satisfied to be able to select their prize books by personal inspection from the shelves of booksellers than to send an order to the Education Office, and to trust to what may be selected for them.

You may also depend upon it that competition, the strongest of all powers in business, will prevent any but the very best books being supplied by booksellers.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. C. CAMPBELL,
Secretary of B. Association.

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education,
Toronto.

Paper No. 10.

I. LIST OF BOOKSELLERS IN ONTARIO.

Who depend upon Bookselling only as their Business.

Toronto.
1 Willing & Williamson.
2 Hart & Rawlinson.
3 Rowsell & Hutchison.
4 Bain & Son.
5 A. Piddington.
6 J. Vannevar.
7 Clougher Bros.
8 P. C. Allan.
9 Winnifrith Bros.
10 J. E. Bailey.
11 W. Wesbroom.
12 Wesleyan Book Room.

Hamilton.
13 Duncan Stuart & Co.
14 Eastwood & Co.
15 D. McLellan.
16 Lancefield Bros.
17 R. M. Ballantyne.

St. Catharines.
18 B. C. Fairfield.
19 W. C. Copeland.
20 D. W. Bixby.

Woodstock.
21 F. Nisbet.
22 G. Anderson.

Ingersoll.
23 Maughan & Ellis.

Brantford.
24 C. A. Buck & Co.
25 J. Sutherland.

London.
26 Reid & Anderson.
27 E. A. Taylor & Co.
28 Jno. Mills.
29 Wm. Bryce.
30 W. L. Carrie.

Chatham.
31 J. Morrish.
32 R. Cooper.
33 J. Holmes,

Windsor.
34 C. Wright.
35 W. M. Whitelaw.

Paris.
36 Thos. Martin.

Galt.
37 J. Fleming & Co.
38 H. Smith.

Strathroy.
39 R. Dickenson.

Stratford.
40 H. Matheson.

Sarnia.
41 D. McMaster.
42 S. G. McCrae.

Clinton.
43 H. Yuill.

Seaforth.
44 C. Armstrong.

Mitchell.
45 W. Colwell.
46 N. Brisbin.

Goderich.
47 T. J. Moorhouse.
48 T. Butler.

Kincardine.
49 S. Henry.

Berlin.
50 J. Oberholtzer.

Guelph.
51 T. J. Day.
52 J. Anderson.
53 R. Paterson.

Owen Sound.
54 E. Todd.
55 W. Ireland.

Meaford.
56 W. K. Ireland.
57 Thos. Plunkett.

Barrie.
58 Edwards & Laird.

59 Mann & Son.
Newmarket.
60 A. Henderson.
Bradford.
61 T. Driffill
Aurora.
62 S. H. Lundy.
Richmond Hill.
63 A. Scott.
Whitby.
64 D. Allin.
Oshawa.
65 J. F. Willcox.
66 J. A. Gibson.
Bowmanville.
67 C. Barker.
68 Yellowlees & Quick.
Port Hope.
69 W. Williamson.
70 J. Baird.
71 Moulton & Long.
Peterboro'.
72 Thomas Menzies.
73 Davidson & Co.
74 J. Matthias.
Lindsay.
75 R. S. Porter.
Cobourg.
76 J. Salisbury.
Napanee.
77 Henry Bros.
78 J. Henderson.
Belleville.
79 E. Harrison.
80 Vannorman & Son.
81 J. C. Overell.
Kingston.
82 J. Henderson.
83 E. Stacey.
84 McAuley & Co.
Brockville.
85 McMullen & Co.
86 E. Overell.
87 F. L. Kincaid.
Perth.
88 John Hart.
Smith's Falls.
89 W. M. Keith.
Pembroke.
90 S. E. Mitchell.
Ottawa.
91 J. Durie & Son.
92 Henderson & Co.
93 J. G. Whyte.
94 A. Holmes.
95 J. Hope.
Prescott.
96
Norwich.
97 J. A. Tidey.
Listowell.
98 J. Anderson.
Orillia.
99 Cook & Hunter.
Port Colborne.
100 S. S. Smades.
St. Thomas.
101 A. McLachlin.
St. Mary's.
102 H. F. Sharp.

(*Enclosure.*)

II.—LIST OF PLACES WHERE STOCKS OF MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS ARE KEPT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANOTHER BUSINESS, SUCH AS DRUGGIST, &C.

1 Oakville.
2 Milton.
3 Beamsville.
4 Clifton.
5 Welland.
6 Port Dalhousie.
7 Thorold.
8 Dunnville.
9 Port Dover.
10 Ridgeway.
11 Port Rowan.
12 Aylmer.
13 Vienna.
14 Amhertsburg.
15 Leamington.
16 Petrolia.
17 Forest.
18 Lucan.
19 Exeter
20 Ailsa Craig.
21 Port Elgin.
22 Southampton.
23 Fergus.
24 Mount Forest.
25 Durham.
26 Orangeville,
27 Smithville.
28 Paisley.
29 Wroxeter.
30 Watford.
31 St. Jacobs.
32 Harriston.
33 Beaverton.
34 Uxbridge.

35 Newcastle.
36 Millbrook.
37 Keene.
38 Fenelon Falls.
39 Brighton.
40 Trenton.
41 Picton.
42 Renfrew.
43 Almonte.
44 Arnprior.
45 Dundas.
46 Brampton.
47 Georgetown.
48 Thornhill.
49 Collingwood.
50 Bobcaygeon.
51 Hastings.
52 Walkerton.
53 Elora.
54 Merrickville.
55 Cornwall.
56 Port Perry.
57 Niagara.
58 Otterville.
59 Port Stanley.
60 Caledonia.
61 Waterloo.
62 Ayr.
63 Angus.
64 Stayner.

N.B.—In this list are *not included* those towns and villages where *only School Books* are sold, or where only small *news agencies* are established. *These contain Booksellers* selling and keeping a stock of Books suitable for school prizes.

P.S.—The number of *School Books* and *Newsdealers* in addition to the above, is rather over 200.

(*Enclosure.*)

III.—List of Wholesale Booksellers Carrying on Business in Ontario and Quebec.

Dawson Bros.....	Montreal	Adam Miller & Co.....	Toronto.
Robert Miller.....	"	William Warwick.....	"
Campbell & Son.....	Toronto.	A. S. Irving.....	"
Copp, Clark & Co.....	"	Adam, Stevenson & Co.....	"

The above include only those houses which supply books suitable for school prizes and libraries, but not those who give their attention chiefly to school books.

Besides the above, many of the principal retail trade import direct to a large extent, and in many cases have equal facilities for supplying books at as low prices as the wholesale houses.

Toronto, March 14th, 1876.

Paper No. 11.

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER ON MR. CAMPBELL'S "LIST OF BOOKSELLER'S CAPITAL EMPLOYED," &c., BY DR. MAY.

1. Mr. Campbell says:—"In regard to the first, I have examined the Reports of the Mercantile Agencies, in addition to my own personal experience, and I find that these 102 booksellers have a capital of not less than $750,000 invested in their business."

Remarks.—It is impossible to get a correct return of the amount invested in any business from the Reports of the Mercantile Agencies; all that they profess to do is to give the *estimated pecuniary strength* of individuals or firms; and this estimate of the amount that they are supposed to be responsible for is set down at certain rates, varying from a minimum to a maximum sum, ranging in no case less than fifty per cent.—for example, a bookseller rated at F means that his credit is good for an amount ranging from $10,000 to $25,000. This is no proof that said bookseller has the sum of $25,000 capital invested in his business.

I find from one of the most reliable Mercantile Reports for the present year, that the estimated pecuniary strength of the 102 booksellers is from $395,000 to $884,000. Mr. Campbell states that they have a capital of not less than $750,000. Now, if we take for granted that the Mercantile Agents actually do report the amount of capital invested, the minimum

sum quoted by them is only about one half of that which Mr. Campbell states to be invested.

2. "That the stock of books they keep on hand regularly is not less than $500,000 in cost value."

Remarks.—This, of course, is only an assumption of Mr. Campbell's; no proof can be given from the Mercantile Reports of the value of stock kept on hand regularly.

3. This list of 102 booksellers is stated on page 4 as those "who depend upon bookselling only as their business."

Remarks.—It is surprising that such an assertion as this is made when it can easily be proved that a large number of the persons whose names are given in that list are not dependant upon bookselling only as their business. In the list for Toronto I find Mr. Piddington's name; his place of business is well known as a general fancy store—principally toys, &c., with an assortment of new and second-hand books.

On the same list for Toronto there are other names of persons who are dealers in fancy goods and stationery, &c., together with those who only keep the publications of particular denominations which never have been sanctioned as School Prizes or for the supply of Public School Libraries.

As Mr. Campbell has taken the Report of the Mercantile Agencies as authority for his statements, I also will refer to them to verify the correctness of his statements. I find that out of the 102 booksellers whom he states depend entirely upon bookselling for a livelihood, that over 25 per cent. are reported to have other trades in connection with bookselling. These trades include the following:—bookbinders, jewellers, stationers, printers, publishers, fancy goods, general store, music, exchange, hardware, paints, drugs, broker, &c.

This seemed so much at variance with Mr. Campbell's statement, that I sent a note of inquiry with the lists to Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co. (who, next to Messrs. Campbell & Son, carry on the largest miscellaneous book business in Toronto), and received the following reply:—

TORONTO, March 24th, 1876,

DEAR DOCTOR,—I have looked over the lists, and it is safe to say that there is not a man in the country retail that *depends entirely* upon books; all of them have stationery, nearly all wall papers and fancy goods. Rev. C. Barker, of Bowmanville, Rev. J. Baird, of Port Hope, these are special men like the Wesleyan Book Room here, depending on a class for support, and they may keep books principally. Both Nisbet and Anderson, whom you have queried, combine books and stationery, so McLachlin. The fact is that the stock of miscellaneous books is very small kept by most of these men. It is hard to estimate it, but it is slight.

Yours, etc.,
(Signed) H. J. CLARK.

After Mr. Clark's letter it may seem unnecessary to make further remarks respecting the 102 booksellers; but I cannot refrain from referring to the most essential point, viz., whether or not these booksellers keep a stock of library or prize books. As a proof that they do not, I am prepared to show that several of those identical booksellers, on receiving small orders for school prizes from trustees, under the new law, have sent their orders direct to Messrs. Campbell & Son for the books. Messrs. Campbell & Son supplied them, and allowed a commission of 10 per cent. on the order. If they kept a stock themselves, it is not probable that on receiving an order for $10 worth of books, they would keep the trustees waiting till they received the books from Toronto. I am informed that in some cases the parcels were not even opened by the booksellers, but were handed over unopened to the Trustees.

4. In regard to the second list, "These booksellers *all sell* and *keep stocks of books suitable for school libraries and prizes.*"

Remarks.—If those stated to be genuine booksellers do not keep a stock of these books, it is not likely that one on list No. 2 will do so. In fact, we have only to refer to the copies of testimonials annexed to Mr. Campbell's letter, to find that at some of these places they only act as agents, the books being ordered through them.

5. "I estimate the capital invested in book selling by the trade in these towns, to be not less than $150,000, and the stocks usually kept on hand at not less than $100,000."

Remarks.—Being satisfied from personal knowledge that in many of these places library

and prize books are not kept for sale, and knowing that when trustees have purchased them in several of these towns the orders have been filled by Messrs. Campbell & Son, I sent to Mr. Clark, asking him whether he thought the whole stock of miscellaneous books kept in these towns, would exceed in value $5,000, and he sent the following reply :—

TORONTO, April 7th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—I should say that very few indeed of these men keep any stock of miscellaneous books. Some may possibly be found at 2, 5, 8, 17, 22, 23, 24, 26, 34, 41, 42, 43, 45, 47, 52, 53, 55, 56 ; and in my opinion your estimate of $5,000 is a very liberal one, putting them altogether. These half drug or half jewellery stores never keep much but school books.

Yours truly,
H. J. CLARK.

We find from the above letter that Mr. Clark, values the miscellaneous stock at $5,000, which Mr. Campbell sets down at $100,000.

6. "The capital invested by booksellers in their business is not less than $600,000."

Remarks.—The first two names on the list, Messrs. Dawson Bros., and Robert Miller, of Montreal, do not supply library and prize books in Ontario, and therefore their names should not be on the list ; as to the others, Messrs, Campbell & Son, and Messrs, Copp, Clark & Co., are the only two that keep large stocks of books suitable for school libraries and prizes, Messrs. Adam Miller & Co., keep some miscellaneous books, but their business depends chiefly upon school books, stationery and fancy goods. Mr. Warwick, according to his own statement made to Dr. Hodgins and myself, has given up that part of his business which related to miscellaneous books ; he sold to the Department a large quantity of books at a sacrifice, and also disposed of part of his stock to Messrs. Campbell & Son, and Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co. He stated that he intends for the future devoting himself specially to text-books, stationery, and fancy goods. Mr. Irving is a wholesale news-dealer and does not profess to supply the trade with library and prize books. Messrs. Adam Stevenson & Co., having compounded with their creditors, have a stock of unsaleable books entirely unsuited for Public School Library and Prize books. Having now shown that Mr. Campbell has over-estimated the amount of capital employed by the booksellers, I will briefly refer to his concluding remarks.

7. "The Booksellers are competent to carry on their own business themselves."

Remarks.—No person has ever doubted their capability of doing so, but what that has to do with the Depository question I am at a loss to know ; surely Mr. Campbell does not pretend to say that the present business done by the Depository legitimately belongs to the booksellers, he must be well aware that it is a special business which was originated and fostered until it attained its present growth by the Education Department, and that the booksellers have no more claim to it than they have to supply the Trustees with Teachers and school buildings.

As I have already sent in a memorandum on the copies of testimonials, it is unnecessary to make any further remarks upon them.

S. P. MAY.

Educational Depository, 17th April, 1876.

Paper No 12.

VILLAGE LIBRARIES.

(*Handed in by J. Campbell & Son.*)

1. In 1850 the Legislature, recognizing the importance of keeping a supply of books in general literature within the reach of scholars attending school, young people who had left school, also of adults, framed a law, enacting that a library be established in every township, and requiring Township Councils to provide means for that purpose, also that a library be

established and maintained in every school section, and that the teacher be required to act as librarian.

2. From the Chief Superintendent's report for 1863 (the last issued), it appears that in a majority of cases the law has not been put in practice; in other instances it has been imperfectly carried out, shreds and patches of books are found lying in boxes, and in very few instances has the law been properly attended to, so that the report of some of the Inspectors says: "in many instances both teachers and scholars are without the means of reading, save what is found in the text-books." In many cases the libraries established in school sections are largely composed of works entirely unsuited to the capacities, mental habits, and culture of those for whom they were intended.

Hence the necessity of selections, somewhat as works are chosen for Mechanics' Institutes, *i. e.*, by men who appreciate not only good literature, but also the requirements of those for whom they are provided.

"It is all very well to say that so many thousands are distributed throughout the country, the great question is, are they read? Two or three years ago the question was asked in annual reports how many volumes were taken out. In my inspectorate, about one person of school age out of twenty took out books, and one book was taken for every three of school age."*

In 1873 and 1874, the proposition was less favourable.

Mechanics' Institute Libraries are in many cases largely circulated, and are largely added to every year.

3. It is lamentable that the limited amount of knowledge derived from text-books, should be allowed to fall into abeyance, as soon as the scholar leaves school, from the want of books, to keep up the habit of reading, thereby to foster and develop a taste and love for information.

4. To a limited extent the evil is lessened by the activity of Sunday Schools in providing so many suitable books, which are eagerly read, and are very popular throughout the Province; but this goes but a little way to remedy the evil, and there is a large class of most valuable books instructive and entertaining, narrative, voyages, travels, history, biography, discoveries in science, natural history and phenomena, subjects of which thousands of our young people know nothing, and with which they have no means of becoming acquainted.

The number of volumes in public school libraries (furnished at half price) in 1873, was 258,879, while in Sabbath School Libraries paid for in full, the number reported was 367,658 —106,900 more.

"It would be valuable to know how many volumes were taken out of the S. S. libraries respectively. If my experience is at all like that of others, I should say ten of the latter to one of the former." *

5. It is to be regretted that thousands who leave the common schools are left without adequate supply of useful reading, and especially at a time when the character is being formed. The pleasure found in reading is left in a great measure to be gratified by the Dime Novel Literature and the pernicious sensational, cheap magazines or newspaper, the refuse of the American press. A glance at the stock in trade of the small newspaper dealer in the villages of Ontario, is enough to convince any one of the necessity of providing something better than is here offered, to satisfy the moderate thirst for reading acquired at school.

6. To supply the great lack of knowledge among our young; to stimulate a taste for a better class of works, and to bring before them the practical uses of the results of science; to familiarize them with a practical knowledge of the various objects exhibited in Provincial and Local Exhibitions. In natural history, to interest them in the knowledge of useful and noxious animals, insects, birds, &c., it is proposed to establish a library in every incorporate village and other centres of population in the province.

7. *Extracts from the Reports of forty-two Inspectors, of which twenty-four make no mention of Libraries in their section.*

Renfrew.—Some Teachers read "Journal of Education" and some nothing but Text-books.

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* D. Fotheringham, York North.
* D. Fotheringham, York, North.

Lennox and Addington.—Township Libraries in the country, except Amherst Island, a complete failure.

Prince Edward.—Teachers' Library doing much good. No report of School or Township Libraries.

Glengarry.—An addition made to Teachers' Library. No report of School or Township Libraries.

Durham.—Twenty-two Libraries have been provided.

York, North.—Nothing has been done in the matter of Public School Libraries. It is hoped, however, that very soon they will feel able and willing to do liberally in this matter. I attempted to have a professional library formed, in which, however, I failed; next in benefit to such a library, some thought to be the possession of some good author on teaching, by each Teacher, and to such a suggestion made by circular, many have promptly responded.

Wellington, North.—I regret that no movement has yet been made for improving the condition of, and augmenting existing, school libraries. I am convinced it would be highly beneficial to all concerned, and have recommended it when I could.

Grey, South.—While Sunday School Libraries exist in every section and are tolerably well read, the most of the Township and Section Libraries, originally in a few municipalities, are either entirely worn out, or have been so frequently read as to be much less interesting and consequently little read.

Kent.—The School Libraries do not seem to improve. The books in general are old, and now seldom used. It is to be hoped that now the booksellers are interested in the establishment of Public School Libraries, that a great impetus will be given to the purchase of books. I am satisfied that any facility given to them by Inspectors will not now be attributed to a first warning.

Halton.—The number of School Libraries is twenty-five; the number of volumes taken out during the year is 4,135. As I am thoroughly convinced, from many years observation of their influence, that Public School Libraries are productive of the most beneficial results, I deeply regret to record that there are yet thirty-three sections without these potent aids to education.

Brant.—I am sorry I cannot report any marked improvement during the year in the matter of Public School Libraries. Of the advantage of Public School Libraries, it is almost superfluous to say a word; all sensible and enlightened persons admit them without demur.

Essex, No. 1.—I am sorry to say very few schools have Libraries. People have made so many sacrifices in buying school sites, building school-houses, and providing them with necessary requisites, that I do not like to press too much upon them, to provide libraries for the schools, but this is only a question of time. As soon as the school sections are out of debt, I am assured that the trustees will not refuse to establish good libraries.

City of Kingston.—The Library is a central one, and I believe it is largely patronized by the public.

Town of Chatham.—There was an addition made to the Library in 1873, but at the last meeting of the Board, in February, 1874, there was a certain sum voted for that purpose.

Town of Paris.—The School Library is not much used; that of the Mechanics' Institute is very much preferred.

Town of Peterboro'.—In the matter of Libraries, our school may be said to have none, but our Mechanics' Institute is in a flourishing condition, with a well-selected Library, which is circulated to members, the books reaching many families.

Town of Simcoe.—It will also be seen that the School Library was reopened last summer, and that it is highly valued by the people. It is to be regretted that it is of so limited extent. The great educational want here now is a good Library. The children acquired a taste for reading, but have little opportunity of gratifying it.

From these extracts it will be seen that Inspectors are well fitted to give exact statements regarding the condition of Township School Libraries, and their opinion regarding their importance and education must be valuable.

9. With the establishment of a Village Library, it will be necessary to make it a part of the business of a Public Library Clerk, through the Librarian or Inspector, or otherwise to promote the formation and success of those Libraries, and to report periodically as to their working.

10. Whether a hall might be obtained as a reading-room to be open at all times, with the

attendance of the Librarian at stated times, to give out books; or merely a room, in which the books are kept in a case, and to be given out at fixed times, may be considered. Whether the one plan may answer better in one place, and the other may be more suitable in another, would depend on local circumstances. In some cases the Teacher might undertake the duties of Librarian, with a small salary attached, or when more time might be required a suitable person is usually to be found in most villages.

11. Among the privileges enjoyed by Mechanics' Institutes, is a certain fund to defray expenses of lectures; this sum might, in the case of the Village Library, be devoted to rent of a hall or room, &c.

12. Indifference, incompetency, and poverty are said to be the great hindrances to the Township and School Libraries, and it would be a work of time to overcome these formidable obstacles, but with the impetus given by the establishment of Libraries in every incorporated village in the Province, and with an energetic Library Clerk in stimulating the trustees of the various schools and townships, a good deal might be accomplished.

13. The increasing demand for Sunday School Libraries and their popularity, are proofs that Superintendents and Teachers of Sunday Schools are capable of selecting suitable books that are readily found in most of the Canadian villages.

14. Teachers' Libraries, to the formation of which some Inspectors are giving their attention, may in time be highly useful for teachers, but in the meantime, the wants of the young are more immediately concerned, and many books of reference, or a high class of books in general literature, might not be desirable.

15. Should a room or hall be engaged it would be well to have sheets prepared, exhibiting insects, birds, and other animals, noxious or friendly to the farmer, correctly classed; prizes are usually given at Provincial and Local Exhibitions, but no means are taken to spread such knowledge where it is most wanted. It would also be well to have such sheets in every school-house in the Province. A few extracts from the law respecting the shooting of insectiverous birds, would help to create a taste for ornithology, of which our rural population are remarkably ignorant.

———

(Enclosure with No. 12.)

AURORA, January 22nd, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—In all centres of population, especially where manufactures are carried on, workmen and lads find themselves out of employment, for the most part, in the evenings. Many of them are boarders, who have little accommodation except their sleeping rooms, to which they only retire when they wish to sleep. After the work and confinement of the day, there is a natural desire for relaxation and entertainment. Their tastes and limited education do not, as a rule, lead them to look much beyond the present day or week, and so the most accessible and alluring means of present excitement and gratification are resorted to. Our own village (and I presume it is a fair example of Canadian villages), till recently had no place of evening resort but the streets and the bar-room, both of which are admittedly very demoralizing, especially after dark. Some of our thoughtful citizens connected with the Mechanics' Institute, realising the great danger to our youths, so inexperienced and so eager on excitement and gratification, and so unheedful of consequences, proposed and have successfully carried out a reading-room, located in a central part of the village. It is cheerful and attractive. The library, in addition to the usual periodicals, is kept in it, and is open for the use of all who desire books during the evenings, or to take away. We have also a literary society that meets in this room to debate, read, recite, and otherwise develop the better faculties of young men. All this, together with the lectures, evening classes, and entertainments provided by the Institute, is available to young men for the small fee of one dollar per annum.

These facts and details I mention in order to show the great need there is of doing something in the way of opening, in all the centres of population in the Province, libraries and reading-rooms for the benefit of the mechanics and labourers who now in most cases, by resorting to the streets and bar-rooms, are being so rapidly demoralized by the vulgarity, profanity, obscenity, and drunkenness with which they come at present into daily contact.

Hoping that these suggestions may be of some service to you in your laudable desire to promote so excellent a scheme, I must for the present remain,

Yours faithfully,

D. FOTHERINGHAM.

James Campbell, Esq.,
Toronto, Ont.

Paper No. 13.

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER, ON THE FOREGOING PAPER ON "VILLAGE LIBRARIES," BY DR. MAY.

1. "From the Chief Superintendent's Report from 1873 it appears in a majority of cases the law has not been put in practice, &c."

Remarks.—This Department is not responsible for the neglect of School Trustees, if they do not purchase Library Books. We cannot compel them to do so. We take every opportunity by letters, circulars, and, so far as possible by personal interviews to impress upon them the necessity of establishing libraries, but as some of the Inspectors state in their Reports for 1874, there are other more important requirements first to be obtained, viz, good school buildings, and good teachers.

2. "In many instances both teachers and scholars are without the means of reading save what is in the Text books."

Remarks.—They give no proof of this, in fact, the Extract from *Renfrew*, that Teachers read nothing but Journal of Education and Text-books is incorrect, as they have Public School Libraries in that county.

3. "In many cases the libraries established in school sections are largely composed of works entirely unsuited to the capacities and mental habits of those for whom they are intended."

Remarks.—It is true in some isolated cases Trustees may have selected unsuitable books, but reference to the Library catalogues in the possession of the Department containing lists of all the books ever sent from the Depository for School Libraries, will afford evidence that nearly all the books sent out are suitable for the purposes intended; moreover, some Inspectors complain that the books have been so much read that they are worn out; the following extracts from the Annual Report for 1874 are a direct contradiction to the assertions that unsuitable books are sent:

Renfrew.—"In those sections where libraries have been established they seem to exert a good educational influence. *Pupils delight in reading, and form reading habits, and in due time look forward to the time for changing the books with pleasure.* By such means they are also likely to carry on, in their after life, their own education."

Halton.—"The number of School Libraries in the County is *twenty-six*, containing 4,086 volumes, the estimated value is $2,734. The largest and most valuable school library is at Acton. It contains about 1,200 volumes, valued at nearly $1,000. *The Board maintain and foster the interest in the Library by the yearly addition of* $100 *worth of books.* The value of the Library as an educational instrument is shown by the fact that during 1874 more than 2800 volumes were taken out by the pupils and rate-payers.

Wellington, South.—"The books have been *so often read* that scarcely a volume is asked for by the pupils. In order that an interest be kept up among children with regard to reading matter, *new books must be added to the Libraries.* Many of the Teachers have remarked to me that those pupils who are in the habit of reading instructive books at home, are not only the ripest in general knowledge, but are the best prepared in their school studies. It is much to be desired that the different rural School Boards would take advantage of the inducements held out by the Educational Department, where books are sold at the People's Depository of Ontario at the rate of 18cts. on the shilling sterling of retail cost, to *establish and enlarge* libraries in every *section.* This would truly be a valuable and happify ing investment."

City of Hamilton.—"The Library continues to afford great satisfaction to our young people. It contains 1200 volumes, and about 5,000 books were taken out during the year

City of Kingston.—"The Library is a general one; it appears to be quite full; the books in good order; and I believe it is appreciated and well patronized."

4. "Hence the necessity of selections somewhat as works are chosen for Mechanics' I stitutes.

Remarks.—I should very much regret to see the Mechanics' Institute system of selection applied to School Libraries. I find from the annual Report of the Commissioner of Agricultu that moneys are expended year after year by the Mechanics' Institutes without any proof tha new books have been purchased with the sums received from the Government for that purpose. In 1871 only 29 out of 43 Institutes that received Government aid reported. In 1872 only 34 out of 42 reported. Even those that do report do not all explain what the moneys are expended for. In 1870, Seaforth Mechanics' Institute received $193.75 from the Government for the purchase of books which they do not account for.

Some of the Reports, too, are unsatisfactory; In 1871 and 1872 London Mechanics' Institute received from the Government $605 for the purchase of books, yet the Directors report a decrease in the number of volumes in this Library.

The following extracts from Reports by Inspectors of Mechanics' Institutes will show that the Mechanics' Institute system of selections is sometimes a failure:

S. Huron.—"The check given by the department in excluding questionable literature is most salutary, and if a similar oversight could be secured in the *selection* of our *Mechanics' Institutes* and other Libraries, *our young people would enjoy scientific, historical, and other works*, calculated to prepare body and mind for the duties of life, and we should not have to deplore the present age of Dime Novels and yellow-backed trash which have such a powerful influence for evil.

Perth.—"Already two ways are adopted by the Government in aiding the establishment of public libraries—the depository plan, and the plan adopted in regard to Mechanics' Institutes. Some experience of both these plans decide me in the opinion that the *former* has been *eminently satisfactory*, all the Government grant being devoted to its intended object, and that the *latter* has been extremely *unsatisfactory in its results*, in some cases *not one-fourth* of the *Government grant being devoted as intended by law.*

5. "It is all very well to say that as many thousands are distributed &c.: the question is, are they read."

Remarks.—Mr. Fotheringham has no right to conclude, because from peculiar circumstances the books in North York Public School Libraries are not much read, that the same rule applies to other counties. The reason of the books not being much read is shown from his own reports. In 1873 he says, "while scores and even hundreds have from two to four miles to travel to school, attendance must be irregular, and education defective." "We have *forty-four per cent* of the school population *taking* strictly speaking, *no advantage of their educational opportunities;* nearly forty per cent. attended school about half time, and sixteen and a-half per cent attended nearly full time." In 1874 he says, "There has, it is true, been steady improvement in the average, yet it amounts to only about 35 per cent of children from 5 to 21 years of age, and to 43 per cent. of those from 5 to 16. Were an explanation asked for this irregularity, it might be found in the lack of appreciation and consequent indifference of parents who allow neglect of school for trivial causes, in the distance of many in North York from school, &c."

Under these circumstances, if one out of 21 of the whole school population applied for books in 1872, and as the Inspector reports 588 separate individuals took out 3,180 books in that year, it surely cannot be said that the Library system is a failure; the fact is as will be shown hereafter, Mr. Fotheringham has not taken any interest in fostering and increasing the supplies of books in the schools under his jurisdiction.

6. "Mechanics' Institute Libraries are in many cases largely circulated and are largely added to every year."

Remarks.—The annual Reports of the Commissioner of Agriculture are quite at variance with this statement; in some cases the volumes have decreased in number, and there is no proof that they are largely circulated. Even in the village of Aurora which Mr. Fotheringham cites as a model, only 107 volumes were purchased in 1874 at a cost of $250.75, average $2.37 cts. each vol., and no report is given of the number read.

7. "To a limited extent the evil is lessened by the activity of Sunday Schools in providing so many suitable books."

Remarks.—I would not for a moment disparage the amount of work done by Sabbath School Libraries, but it is unfair for Mr. Fotheringham to omit referring to the large number of Prize Books (627,590) sent out (also to 19,807 volumes to Public School and Mechanics' Institutes); therefore instead of 258,897 against 367,658, it should have been 8×6,469 against 367,658—518,811 more. It is a well known fact that Prize Books are read and handed from house to house—every experienced Inspector will endorse this statement. I cannot say so much for Sunday School Books. Ask any experienced Sabbath School Teacher and he will tell you that even the smallest children apply for their library (as they term it); that the majority of these books are returned unread—it is the delight of little children to imitate their older brothers and sisters—have access to the library and be seen carrying home books from the library; besides Sunday School books generally are not intended for the same purpose as those in Public School Libraries; these books are either of a religious character or are intended only for juveniles, they are seldom, if ever, read by the parents, and do not apply to the necessities of every-day life.

8. "It is to be regretted that thousands who leave the common schools are left without adequate supply of useful reading."

Remarks.—If so it is through the neglect of such men as Mr. Fotheringham, who says, in his Report for 1873, "nothing has been done in the matter of Public School Libraries. Feeling that trustees generally were exerting themselves most creditably to meet other and more pressing requirements, their attention has not hitherto been directed to this very important element in the means of education." The people, through the liberality of the Government, have no cause of complaint; they can obtain either Public School Libraries, or, in villages and towns, Mechanics' Institute Libraries, and it is verywrong of Mr. Fotheringham to ignore those means of educating the masses which have been of so much benefit to our country. If Inspectors will not assist in carrying out the law, even by recommending School Libraries, surely the people are not to blame. I find that in North York, before 1871, the time Mr. Fotheringham was appointed Inspector, eighteen libraries had been established—the value was $1,081 83, number of volumes 4,263. What has been done since Mr. Fotheringham's Inspectorate? The small sum of $179 35 has been expended, averaging about $36 per annum. This is certainly a proof of the neglect and want of interest in the Inspector. While some other counties have increased the number of books in proportion for each year since the establishment of School Libraries, North York has retrograded.

Extracts from the Reports of Inspectors.

Remarks.—These extracts are garbled and incorrect, and do not give a fair explanation of the Inspectors' Reports.

1. *Renfrew.*—"Some teachers read *Journal of Education*, and some nothing but the Text-books."

Remarks.—What has this to do with school libraries? The Inspector only refers to books on the *theory of teaching*, and says: "Not only should teachers endeavour to purchase good books, treating of their profession, but they should at all events read the *Journal of Education* and subscribe to the *Ontario Teacher.*" Mr. Fotheringham is so anxious to find fault with the library system, of which he seems to be perfectly ignorant, that he even tries to use remarks about Text-books and teachers' professional books as applying to libraries. The answer of the Inspector of Renfrew, in not referring to school libraries, is no proof that they are not established in that county. In 1874 the Inspector reports: "In those sections where libraries have been established, they seem to exert a good educational influence. Pupils delight in reading, and form reading habits, and in due time look forward to the time for changing the books with pleasure."

2. *Lennox and Addington.*—"Township Libraries in the county, except Amherst Island, a complete failure."

Remarks.—This is a most unfair quotation; the Inspector states that "*thirteen School Section Libraries* were provided during the year. *I expect soon to be able to note a large increase in libraries*, as our people generally are beginning to see the importance of supplementing the instruction given in the school-room, by a course of useful reading. I find great difficulty in inducing Trustees in those townships, which some years ago provided Township Libraries, to supply their schools with libraries. The Township Library system in this

county (except Amherst Island) seems to have been an almost entire failure, the books having been uncared for and finally lost. *I have full confidence in the School Section System.* Mr. Burrows' experience coincides with our own. Township Libraries, which, in the original plan for libraries were established, are not a success, neither would Village Libraries, which are now advocated. We have for several years recommended and urged upon the Inspectors and Trustees the necessity of a Public and High School Library in each school house being established for the use of the pupils and the ratepayers. That we have succeeded in this most important object is proved by the fact that 199 *School Section Libraries* have been *established* during the *same time* as the *last four Township Libraries.*"

3. *Prince Edward.*—"Teachers' Libraries doing much good; no report of School or Township Libraries."

Remarks—It is satisfactory to know that, although Inspectors omitted to report on School Libraries, up to 1873 there were seven School Libraries, with near 3,000 vols. of books, in Prince Edward, and since that time they have been augmented and increased.

4. *Glengarry.*—"An addition made to Teachers' Library; no report of School or Township Libraries."

Remarks.—Libraries were also established prior to 1873 in Glengarry, which have since been augmented, and the omission of Inspector to refer to them is not a proof of their non-success.

5. *Durham.*—"Twenty-two Libraries have been provided."

Remarks.—It would not suit the purposes of the enemies of the School Library system to give a full extract of the Inspector's report. He says: "Since the introduction of the School Law of 1871, twenty-five school-houses have been built in this county; forty-five sections have enlarged their play-grounds, and twenty-two School Libraries have been established. *That has all been done without the use of compulsion in a single case.*" He then refers to the advantages of the school system, and is very enthusiastic in regard to its success.

6. *York, North.*—"Nothing has been done in the matter of Public School Libraries. It is hoped, however, that very soon they will feel able and willing to do liberally in this matter."

Remarks.—Mr. Fotheringham has omitted the most important part of his report, and in his extract only given the first and last lines of the paragraph on School Libraries. The part omitted is: "*Feeling that Trustees generally were exerting themselves most creditably to meet other and more pressing requirements, their attention has not hitherto been directed to this very important element in the means of education.*" The want of success needs no further comment.

7. *Wellington, North.*—I regret that no movement has yet been made for improving the condition of and augmenting existing School Libraries. I am convinced it would be highly beneficial to all concerned, and have recommended it when I could.

Remarks.—The report is so far satisfactory, that it shows the Inspector is taking an interest in his work by recommending School Libraries.

8. *Grey, South.*—While Sunday School Libraries exist in every section, and are tolerably well read, the most of the township and section libraries originally established in a few municipalities, are either utterly worn out or have been so frequently read as to be much less interesting, and consequently little used."

Remarks.—This certainly is very gratifying to us, it shows that the books sent from the department were so frequently used as to be worn out, though the Sabbath School Libraries are only *tolerably* well *read.* In this extract too, an important omission is made. "*We cannot expect to secure much attention here to this department while expenses are so great for local and general improvement.*"

9. *Kent.*—The School Libraries do not seem to improve; the books in general are old and now seldom read. It is to be hoped that now the booksellers are interested, &c."

Remarks.—Another omission "*Now that the School Law has been modified and consolidated, it is to be hoped that unfriendly criticisms will cease, at least for a time.*" Of course, Mr. Fotheringham could not insert that extract, because he is acting quite at variance with it, and not only making criticisms, but unjust criticisms.

10. *Halton.*—"The number of School Libraries is twenty-five, &c."

Remarks.—The very flattering report of the Inspector of Halton more than counterbalances all Mr. Fotheringham has said against School Libraries."

11. *Brant.*

Remarks.—The Inspector of this county refers in eulogistic terms to the advantages of School Libraries.

12. *Essex, No.* 1.—

Remarks.—The Inspector explains the reason so very few School Libraries were established, and speaks encouragingly of the future, it being only a question of time,' that as soon as the School Sections are out of debt, libraries will be established.

13. *City of Kingston.*

Remarks.—Very satisfactory report.

14. *Town of Chatham.*

Remarks.—This report is also satisfactory.

15. *Town of Paris.*—The School Library is not much used, that of the Mechanics' Institute being preferred."

Remarks.—This is not to be wondered at, the Board of School Trustees appropriated $80 in 1853, for Library Books ; since that time they have not increased their Public School Library. The Mechanics' Institute received from the Government from 1868 to 1873 the handsome sum of $950 for the purchase of books. Surely an old Library which cost the Government only $80, in 1853, could not be expected to be equally popular with the Mechanics' Institute Library, which cost the Government $950.

16. *Town of Peterboro.*'—In the matter of Libraries, our School may be said to have none, but our Mechanics' Institute is in a flourishing condition, with a well-selected Library, which is circulated to members, the books reaching many families."

Remarks.—The Mechanics' Institute at Peterboro' has received from the Government *eighteen hundred dollars* for the years 1868 to 1873, inclusive, the books *being circulated to* 232 *members.* We have no hesitation in saying that where the same amount for Public School Libraries is appropriated by the Trustees, and an equal amount apportioned by the Legislature, that thousands of readers (instead of 232 members), enjoy the benefit of the books.

17. *Town of Simcoe.*

Remarks.—This Report is very gratifying, showing that it is highly valued by the people.

18. From these extracts it will be seen that Inspectors are well fitted to give exact statements regarding the condition of township libraries.

Remarks.—This has never been doubted; it is chiefly to the Inspectors' Reports that this Department refers for the success of the Public School Library system.

From the extracts referred to, we may judge that the library system is a great success. Mr. Fotheringham has failed to show the contrary ; in fact, his extracts, when given in full, are nearly all favourable to the present system.

At the present time villages and towns can procure all the books they require, either as School Libraries or Mechanics' Institutes, and there seems no necessity for a change in the present methods.

(Signed,) S. P. May.

Paper No. 14.

LETTER FROM JAMES CAMPBELL & SON, ON THE COMPARATIVE CONDITION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL AND TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES IN 1873 AND 1874.

Toronto, 17th March, 1876.

Dear Sir,—Herewith we beg to send extracts from the Chief Superintendent's Report on Libraries for 1874, with comparative condition of 1873, and also, we think, showing the stagnant state of that part of the duties of the Book Department.

We remain, Sir,
Your obedient servants,
James Campbell & Son.

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

(Enclosure with No. 14.)

GLENGARRY.

1873.	1874.
An addition has been made to the library.	The urgent necessity of providing adequate accommodation, by the purchase or enlargement of sites, and the erection of school-houses, has hitherto prevented me from pressing the subject of school libraries upon the attention of Trustees, but I intend hereafter to direct the minds of the people to the benefits conferred by the diffusion of sound, healthy literature, and the advantageous terms upon which a valuable library can be obtained by each school section.

DUNDAS.

1873.	1874.
No mention.	I cannot but hope that the increasing liberality of the Department, in submitting its noble collection of books and school apparatus at prices so very moderate, may rouse a spirit of liberality among Trustees, and a desire to have their schools furnished with permanent Libraries, which will afford their children instruction which will profit them through all life's business, labour, and enjoyments, and will teach them what is true in reasoning, and beautiful in truth.

PRESCOTT.

No mention.	No mention.

RUSSELL.

No mention.	Under such circumstances as the foregoing, it is scarcely to be wondered that the Trustees are reluctant to enforce the law relative to compulsory education, and that little or nothing has been done in regard to the establishment of School Libraries.

CARLETON.

No mention.

LEEDS, No. 1.

No mention.	No mention.

BROCKVILLE AND GANANOQUE.

No mention.

LEEDS, No. 2.

No mention.	No mention.

GRENVILLE.

No mention.	No mention.

Renfrew.

No mention.

Trustees generally, in this county, have not complied with the Act, which requires that a Library should be established in connection with each Public School. In those sections where libraries have been established, they seem to exert a good educational influence. Pupils delight in reading, and form reading habits, and in due time look forward to the time for changing the books with pleasure. By such means they are also likely, in after life, to carry on their own education.

Lennox and Addington.

Thirteen School Section Libraries were founded during the year. I expect soon to be able to note a large increase in Libraries, as our people generally are beginning to see the importance of supplementing the instruction given in the school-room, by a course of useful reading. I find great difficulty in inducing Trustees in those townships which, some years ago, provided township Libraries, to supply their schools with Libraries. The township library system in these counties (except Amherst Island), seem to have been almost an entire failure, the books having been uncared for, and finally lost.

No mention

Prince Edward.

Our Teacher's Library does very much good, and having ample means we expect to enlarge and replenish.

Our schools are almost without exception well supplied with the requisite maps and apparatus, but in the matter of Public Libraries they are still very deficient.

Hastings, North.

But three Public Libraries have, as yet, been established, a Township Library in Madoc, one in S. S. No. 1, of the same township, and a third in S. S. No. 3, Marmora. The first has gone completely to wreck.

Hastings, South.

No mention.

Many sections have Libraries, and I expect that during 1875 each section will have a Library.

Northumberland.

No mention.

Victoria, East.

No mention:

I have not been able to obtain any additional Libraries.

Victoria West.

I regret to say that the number of Libraries is not increasing, and that those which do exist, are nearly all falling into disuse and becoming dilapidated.

Ontario.

No mention.

No mention.

York, North.

Nothing has been done in the way of School Libraries.

Towards the end of 1874, circulars, of which some copies are enclosed, were sent to all the Boards of Trustees, recommending or urging the purchase, or enlargement, of Public School Libraries. This means of education as will be seen from the summary, is not in a healthy condition. Both the number of books in the library and the number taken out, have diminished from year to year.

York, South.

No mention.

No mention.

Simcoe, North.

The great educational want here is a good Library.

No mention.

Halton.

The number of School Libraries is twenty-five—increase, one—number of volumes, 4,082—increase, 125. The number of volumes taken out during the year, was 4,135. As I am strongly convinced from many years close observation of their influence, that Public School Libraries are productive of the most beneficial results, I deeply regret to record, that there are yet thirty-three sections without these potent aids to education.

The number of Public School Libraries in the county is twenty-six—increase one—containing 4,086 volumes. Ninety-one sections are still unsupplied with these important auxiliaries in the work of education. The estimated value of the Public School Libraries is $2,736. The largest and most valuable Public School Library is at Acton. It contains about 1,200 volumes, valued at nearly $1.000 The Board of Trustees foster and maintain the interest in the Library by the yearly addition of $100 worth of books. The value of the Library as an educational instrument is shown by the fact that, during 1874, more than 2,800 volumes were taken out by the pupils and rate-payers.

Brant.

1873.

I am sorry that I cannot report any marked improvements during the year in the matter of Public School Libraries. It is almost superfluence to say a word; all sensible and enlightened persons admitting this influence without demurs. What is needed now are Libraries, and these are far from being in as

1874.

I am glad to be able to report considerable improvement in the matter of School Libraries. In the early part of the year Cavin Fleming, Esq., of Clenmorris, who has manifested great interest in the welfare of Public Schools since I have known him, informed me that he would give for the purpose of establishing School

satisfactory a state as they ought to be, in so fine a county as Brant, and should be specially remedied.

Libraries, $10 to every School Section in the North Riding of the County where the Trustees were willing to contribute as much or more for the same purpose. Since I have made it public a number of the sections have availed themselves of Mr. Fleming's liberal and intelligent offer, among which the following may be enumerated—Nos. 2 and 6, Onandaga, Nos. 8, 13, 16, and 18, Township of Brantford. During the present year I have no doubt many others will take advantage of Mr. Fleming's offer. A Library has been established in S. S. No. 9, Brantford, and considerable additions have been made to that in No. 5 of the same township. The number of School Libraries reported at the end of the year was *eighteen*, number of volumes 1894, as against *fourteen*, number 1873, and 1419 volumes. There are reported 49 Sunday School Libraries, containing 7,768 volumes.

BRANTFORD.

A School Library was purchased at the department before the summer holidays. It consists of 686 volumes, and out of these 2,000 have been taken out. There is a Mechanics' Institute Library with 1,800 volumes. Two other public Libraries exist with about 600 volumes. There are 15 Sunday School Libraries. Total number of Libraries, 19, of volumes, 9,086.

LINCOLN.

No mention.

No mention.

NORFOLK.

No mention.

No mention.

INGERSOLL.

No mention.

OXFORD.

No mention.

No mention.

WATERLOO.

No mention.

GALT.

No mention.

No mention.

BERLIN.

No mention.

WATERLOO.

No mention.

PRESTON.

No mention.

HESPELER.

No mention.

WELLINGTON, NORTH.

I regret that no movement has yet been made for improving the condition of, or augmenting, existing School Libraries. I am convinced it would be highly beneficial to all concerned, and have recommended it where I could.

The outlay for prizes, library books, &c., is pretty much the same as for 1873. In section 8, West Garafraxa, the Trustees remark, "when the last debenture for the cost of school-house (due a year hence) is paid, the Library will be got. I regret I cannot report more sections coming to a similar determination.

MOUNT FOREST.

Prizes are not given, but in place the Honour Roll is given in the local papers each month, and those whose names appear are entitled, alone of the scholars, to the privilege of receiving books from the School Library.

ARTHUR.

No mention.

HARRISTON

No mention.

CLIFFORD.

No mention.

WELLINGTON.

Scarcely one Library exists for every three school sections, and some of these Libraries are merely nominal. Many of them are not only small but the books have been so often read that scarcely a volume is asked for by the pupils. For instance, in the Township of Nichol, where there are six school sections, three School Libraries exist containing 523 volumes, only 20 are reported as having been taken out during the year 1874. In order that an interest be kept up among children with regard to reading matter, new books must be added to the Library. Many of the teachers have remarked to me that those pupils who are in the habit of reading instruc-

tive books at home are not only the ripest in general knowledge, but are the best prepared in their school studies. It is much to be desired that the different rural School Boards would take advantage of the inducements held out by the Educational Department, where books are sold at the rate of 18 cents on the shilling sterling, of retail cost, to establish and enlarge School Libraries in every section. This would truly be a valuable and happifying investment.

ORANGEVILLE.

No mention.

ELORA.

No mention.

FERGUS.

No mention

GREY, SOUTH.

While Sunday School Libraries exist in almost every section, and are tolerably well read, the most of the Township and Section Libraries originally established in a few municipalities, are either entirely worn out, or have been so frequently read as to be much less interesting, and consequently little used.

No mention

ELGIN.

No mention.

In School Libraries we are yet deficient, and the only excuse I have to offer is, that it seemed a more immediate duty to urge for better school accommodation, and the materials for class instruction.

ESSEX, No. 1.

I am sorry to say that very few schools have libraries.

No mention

ESSEX, No. 2.

In the matter of libraries and apparatus, so necessary for furthering the education of the young, everything has yet to be done. There is only one Public School Library within my circuit, and that is one of the poorest sections of the whole (No. 6, in Gosfield.)

TORONTO.

No mention.

HAMILTON.

The Library still affords mental pabulum to many of our pupils, some thousands of volumes having been taken out during the year.

The Library still continues to afford great satisfaction to our young people. It contains 1,200 volumes, and about 5,000 books were taken out during the year. There are at least 20,000 volumes in the libraries of our city. These include the Hamilton and Gore Mechanics' Institute Libraries, containing some 5,000 volumes of choice books, the Wesleyan Female College Library, and all our Sabbath School Libraries.

KINGSTON.

The Library is a central one for the whole city, and I believe it is largely patronized by the public.

The Library is a general one, having the Secretary of the Board as Librarian. It appears to be quite full, the books in good order, and I believe it is appreciated and well patronized.

CHATHAM.

There was no addition made to the Libraries in 1873.

There are only two Libraries, to one or other of which all the children attending schools have access. No addition has been made recently to either.

ST. CATHARINES.

No mention.

No mention.

STRATFORD.

No mention.

WINDSOR.

We have on hand about $550 towards a Public Library in connection with the High School, which we intend to start at an early day.

Paper No. 15.

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER, ON THE PAPER ON "COMPARATIVE CONDITION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES," BY DR. MAY.

1. Mr. Campbell seems to overlook the fact that the Public School Library System has not been encouraged by the Inspectors, because other more important adjuncts to the schools were required, such as maps, globes, and apparatus, a better class of teachers, and improved school-houses. The officers in charge of this branch of the Department, are well aware that public libraries are not so successful as the school prize system. The latter has yearly increased, and, to a certain extent, is a substitute for libraries; inasmuch as the prizes received by the children are read at home, and probably carried from house to house; and when we remember that over 70,000 prizes were sent from the Department during the last year, it becomes a matter of questionable policy whether the library system should be more stringently

enforced. Surely not, if it would be a detriment to, and retard the stimulus now employed in obtaining prizes. The probability is, that if trustees are compelled to get library books, they will not tax themselves to such an extent for prizes. For that reason we have fostered and encouraged the prize system; knowing that the taste for reading thus developed will increase, and must eventually become beneficial to the establishment of libraries.

2. I am at a loss to know how Mr. Campbell can assert that the annual report shows a "stagnant state of that part of the *duties* of the *Book Department*." We have no power to compel trustees to purchase libraries! And what, pray, is the state of things under the new regulations? The booksellers, with all their advertising in local places, with personal interviews, in some cases, with the trustees themselves, the offer of fees to agents, and all the commercial advantages of competition which they lay so much stress upon, have not removed this stagnation, as they are pleased to term it. Far from it. The library system, if it depended on them, would have reached from stagnation to utter prostration. During the two years that the booksellers have had the privilege of supplying books on the same terms as the Depository, they have only established two public school libraries, neither of which contains one hundred volumes.

(Signed,) S. P. May.

Toronto, April 1876.

Paper No. 16.

LETTER TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON SCHOOL LIBRARY, BY CHAIRMAN OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF EXAMINERS.

Toronto, 22nd April, 1876.

Sir,—As the subject of School Libraries has been referred to the Central Committee, I have the honour to request that you will cause to be furnished to the Committee, from information in the possession of the Department, a list of the schools in connection with which the libraries have been established, with the number of volumes in each. This information would of itself be of small importance, but it may serve as a step to something beyond. It will aid the Committee in its work, if the true state of the school libraries, and the actual use which is made of them can be ascertained. The documents which have been forwarded to me, afford but little light on these points. I propose, therefore, with your sanction, to select a certain number—say, *ten* of the schools, making the selections from different parts of the Province, and choosing those which seem fitted to serve as representative cases. The minister might ask the masters or trustees of these schools to send him a statement of all the books which have been taken out of the libraries for perusal by children or their parents during the past year.

If we had lists of all the works in the libraries of the schools seleeted as above, this would be an additional important item of information; but I suppose that it would require too much trouble to obtain these.

As the Central Committee is to meet again about the 20th May, and I should like to consider the subject of libraries and prize books as fully as possible before the meeting takes place, perhaps the Minister (if he approve of what I suggest), would obtain the information for me as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) George Paxton Young.

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Paper No. 17.

MEMORANDUM TO THE HONOURABLE THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, ON REVEREND PROFESSOR YOUNG'S LIBRARY PROPOSITION. BY DR. HODGINS, DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

1. I would respectfully represent to the Honourable the Minister, that the consideration and discussion of the question which Professor Young raises, will lead to no useful or prac-

tical result in the form in which he proposes to deal with it—besides, it would involve a great deal of labour on the part of the officers of the Depository.

2. The Department has for years done little towards the establishment of Public School libraries in rural sections, but *in its place* has strongly advocated the institution and extension of the *prize book* system, on the merit card system of non competition between the pupils. Professor Young proposes, therefore, to discuss what is, as a matter of fact, a "dead issue," and which will throw no light on the "book question." Even where libraries are sought to be established by the trustees, the practice of the Department (as explained in the "*Return*" laid before the House),* is as follows :—

"When the selection of books for libraries is left to the Department, regard is had to the condition of the school, the number and ages of the scholars, the character of the neighbourhood, whether old or new settlement, and the attainments of the pupils, the nature of the population, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, or mixed nationality—whether Irish, Scotch, or German, &c., or any other peculiarity suggested by the parties sending the order, or known to be incident to the case. In order to facilitate interchange of books after they have been read in one section for books that have been read in another section, we are always careful to avoid sending the same books to adjoining sections, and endeavour to make the reading matter as varied as possible. Our chief aim has always been to make the system popular; we, therefore, send only such books as we think or know will be appreciated, and read with pleasure. Even when books are *ordered by the Trustees* themselves, which we know would be unsuitable for a rural section, we invariably either write to the Trustees giving them our opinion on the subject, or suggest other books of a more popular and useful character as substitutes, subject, of course, to their approval. This has been invariably done with good effect. As a matter of experience, we have no hesitation in saying that the local selection of books generally errs very greatly in the choice of heavy, dry, and unsuitable books, and even of books 'little sought for.' As a matter of fact, the selection is of late years chiefly left to the Department."

In other parts of the "Return," reference is made to the same subject. The Inspectors in their report also speak of the library system as a failure, and give many instances which are before the Committee, with Dr. May's report thereon. Of late years we have made no special efforts to promote the library system in rural sections, having concentrated these efforts with great success on the distribution of prize books on the merit card system. Under that system good and useful books are sure to get into the families without any of the evils attendant upon personal competition among pupils, while under the library system the books are rarely asked for—they being as a general rule such standard works as are too dry and unsuitable for family reading.

If the Minister considers the subject, under the circumstances, worth pursuing, I would suggest, as the best way of obtaining practical information on the subject, to issue a circular to the Inspectors asking them to furnish a specific report on the number of actual working school libraries in their county or district. Many of the libraries established by the Department have long ceased to exist, so that the list asked for by Professor Young would be entirely unreliable so far as the present facts of the case or phase of the question are concerned.

Signed J. George Hodgins,
Deputy Minister.

Toronto, 28th April, 1876.

Paper No. 18.

RFPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON DEPOSITORY BRANCH OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Toronto, 6th June, 1876.

Sir,—The subject of the Depository for Library and Prize Books, which was remitted to the Central Committee for its opinion, has been considered by the Committee; and I have now the honour to lay before you the general conclusion at which the Committee have arrived.

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* See page 73 of the Special Report on the operation of the Depository Branch of the Education Department.

Work done through the Depository—Library and Prize Books :—

It seems important at the outset, to ascertain what work the Depository is actually doing.

The number of prize books sent out from the Department during the last year is stated by Dr. May to have been above 70,000. It would be interesting to know how many prize books are supplied annually to the schools by private booksellers. If the number of Public and High Schools be taken as 5,000 ; and if it be assumed that prizes are awarded in only one-half these, 70,000 volumes will give an average of 28 for each school in which prizes are bestowed. This cannot be much short of the total average ; so that the number of prizes purchased from sources outside of the Depository, must be comparatively small.

Regarding school libraries we are very much in the dark. From the documents laid before us, little can be gathered, as to the number and character of the libraries at present in existence, or as to the use which is made of them ; but the general impression which the members of the Committee have received is, that the library system is in a languid condition. Indeed this seems to be virtually admitted by the Deputy Minister and Dr. May, who represent the successful effort that has been put forth in connection with the supply of prize books, as accounting in part for the small number of School Libraries, and for the state of torpidity into which not a few of these have sunk. These gentlemen urge, that, had greater pressure been brought to bear on Boards of Trustees, to establish libraries, fewer prizes would have been purchased, and, on the whole, a less amount of useful literature diffused through the Province.

It seems desirable, not merely for the purpose of the present inquiry, but on more general grounds also, that fuller information regarding the library system should be obtained.

The Central Committee, therefore, recommend that the Minister instruct Public School Inspectors to furnish, in their next Reports, full details regarding the School Libraries in their respective districts. Besides mentioning the number of books in each library, they should give some intimation of the character of the books, and should state whether the libraries are kept up by the addition of new books from year to year, and to what extent they are actually used.

Could the work done by the Depository be accomplished as well by private enterprise ?

The booksellers in a petition to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, represent that their trade is now so developed that the supply of library and prize books might with propriety, and should in justice be left to them. They pray accordingly "that the sale of books be discontinued at the Education office," and "that booksellers be allowed to supply the Public and High Schools with books, in the same manner as they now supply the Mechanics' Institute," that is, they desire to supply any books they please, and at their own prices.

We have here two demands which require to be considered separately. I begin with the latter—that booksellers be allowed to supply the Public and High Schools with books, in the same manner as they supply the Mechanics' Institute :

The Deputy Minister, in a memorandum which has been submitted to the Central Committee, contends that if the privilege craved were granted to the booksellers, our schools would become flooded with trashy and immoral literature ; and he brings forward, in support of his position, a variety of testimonies. The following from the State Superintendent of Michigan may serve as a specimen :—"A worse evil grew up in the systematic plans of pedlers to palm upon the libraries a mass of cheap, trashy, and often pernicious literature. One or two healthy booksellers kept their peddling agents traversing the state ; and many are the tricks by which they boasted that they cajoled the Inspectors. A few libraries were well selected and well kept ; but so valueless for the public good, and especially for the education of the young, had the great majority become, that all intelligent friends of education desired a change."

We may perhaps flatter ourselves that Canadian teachers and boards of trustees, would not suffer themselves to be bribed or duped by book agents and pedlers, hawking about unwholesome literature ; and the Committee have no sufficient evidence to show that any such abuses as those denounced by the State Superintendent of Michigan, exist in connection with our Provincial Mechanics' Institutes ; at the same time it would scarcely be wise to refuse to take warning from the experience of our neighbours. It is of the greatest importance that library and prize books be at least not objectionable ; this can without difficulty be secured ; the Government is interested in securing it, not only as a matter of public weal but also because a large proportion of the price of such books is defrayed by the Government ;

the Central Committee therefore cannot advise such a change in the law as would leave booksellers at liberty to introduce any sort of literature into school libraries, or to place any sort of books, as prizes, in the hands of the children attending our Public and High Schools.

The other clause in the petition of the booksellers "that the sale of books be discontinued at the Education Office," has now to be considered.

That our schools should be protected against trashy and immoral literature does not by any means imply that the Depository should be maintained. The two things indeed have often been conjoined in discussion, as though there were some logical or natural connection between them. They are entirely disconnected. Does the power of the Education Department to control the character of library and prize books depend on the existence of the Depository. Certainly not. Were that institution abolished to-morrow, and were even the Legislative grant to encourage the purchase of library and prize books withdrawn, boards of trustees might be prohibited from purchasing as prize books or for school libraries, any books except such as might be officially sanctioned. When I have stated more fully the views of the Committee in regard to the supervision of books, it will be seen that the supervision which it seems desirable to take, may be equally well exercised whether the sale of books at the Education Office be continued or not.

In the opinion of the Central Committee, the principal argument for the maintenance of the Depository is to be found in the low prices at which it enables library and prize books to be furnished to the schools. The booksellers indeed, allege that they can sell as cheaply as the Depository ; but they certainly could not do so were the Depository well managed ; and even supposing them to be able to do so, we may take for granted that they would not continue to sell at the Depository prices if they had not the Depository to contend with.

Apart from the general consideration, that a Public Institution, enjoying exceptional advantages, and desiring to make no profit, is in a position, if conducted with ordinary skill, to sell more cheaply than private firms whose sole object is profit, there is a special consideration, bearing on the matter of price, which the Deputy Minister urges in his memorandum, and which ought not to be left out now.

From the number and variety of books required for prizes and libraries, a monopoly, either private or public, seems, in the present circumstances of the Province, unavoidable. Very few Canadian booksellers can afford to keep in stock even a moderate supply of books on the authorized list. Hence, in the absence of a Public Institution such as the Depository, the work of providing library and prize books would inevitably fall into the hands of one or two of the larger booksellers. In confirmation of this, the Deputy affirms that the prize books now supplied to them from sources outside the Depository, are obtained almost entirely from a single bookseller or his agents. The agents in different parts of the Province secure, it is said, orders from Boards of Trustees, transmit these orders to the booksellers, receive from him ten per cent. on the orders ; and the books which the agents may never see, are forwarded by the firm, paying this commission. How a private monopoly could affect prices, does not require to be printed.

The Depository, while furnishing library and prize books to the schools at low rates, secures at the same time a variety, which is highly desirable, in the books supplied. I have already said that I do not share in the apprehensions of those who think that, if the sale of books at the Education Office were discontinued, the books supplied to the schools would be vitiated in character. Effectual steps could be taken to prevent trashy or immoral books from being placed on the shelves of School Libraries, or given as prizes in the schools. But though not vitiated in character, the library and prize books might be greatly narrowed in range and variety. The booksellers will probably deny this. They have in fact, denied it by anticipation, when they have made it a charge against the Depository, that the books ordered from that Institution are not always supplied, but that frequently, indeed commonly—other books, which have not been ordered, and are not wanted, are sent out. They allege that private firms would meet the wants of the schools in a more business-like manner, by providing such books as their customers choose to order. But it is well known that the firms, to which applications for library and prize books are made, have in various ways a good deal to do in determining the works actually supplied ; a bookseller will naturally send out the books which yield him most profit,—those, in other words, in which he receives the largest discounts ; and the discount which publishers can afford to allow, will depend in a great measure, on the number of books taken. On the whole the tendency will be for those

Canadian book-sellers who have the command of the market, to send out the books of certain publishing establishments, to the exclusion of almost all others. Here again, in confirmation of what has been said, I quote from the memorandum of the Deputy Minister, "while the official catalogue, contains lists of books of over 150 publishers, nearly one-half of the books sent out by Campbell & Son, and their agents throughout the Province, up to the end of last year, were those of one publisher alone."

On the whole, the opinion of the Central Committee is, that the work done through the Depository could not be as well accomplished by private enterprise, and that therefore, it would be injudicious at least in present circumstances, to do away with that Institution.

The general principle, that it is wrong for the Government to interfere with the ordinary course of trade, is frequently appealed to as furnishing a reason why the Depository should be abolished ; and the principle is, in the main, a sound one, but if it is to be rigidly pressed, the *bonus* given to encourage the purchase of library and prize books, must be withdrawn. The *bonus* is already an interference with the ordinary course of trade, and it would become a peculiarly objectionable interference, should it continue to be bestowed under conditions which would make the profit on the *bonus* a pure gratuity out of the public purse, to one or two large traders and their agents. Apart from this, it is absurd for a Government to allow itself to be debarred from doing a public benefit by appeals to abstract principles of political economy, as though these principles possessed a validity entirely independent of circumstances.

Privileges conceded to the booksellers by the Act of 1874 :—

The booksellers represent, that by the Act of 1874, their right "to compete with the Depository was acknowledged." This is correct, and there seems to be no reason why the privileges granted them by the Act should be withdrawn.

It appears from the petition of the booksellers, that, though the Act of 1874 falls short of what they desire, yet, if it were administered in what they consider a satisfactory manner, they would accept it as at least a valuable concession ; but they complain that the intention of the Act has been defeated, partly by what may be termed a strategic reduction of the Depository prices, and partly by the vexatious regulations to which the booksellers are made subject.

It is alleged, that on the passing of the Act of 1874, "the Chief Superintendent reduced the price of the books in the Depository 10 per cent." In reply to this, two things are urged. First,—the statement is not strictly accurate. The late Chief Superintendent in answer to a question proposed by a Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, explains that the system of reduction which culminated in the rate of eighteen cents commenced so far back as 1867, when Dr. Hodgins succeeded in making better terms with various publishers, than had been previously enjoyed—(see appendix). But, second,—and this is the main point, the final reduction, by which, after the passing of the Act of 1874, the Depository rate became eighteen cents for the shilling sterling, was not made with any intention of out-manœuvring the booksellers, and rendering nugatory the concession granted them by the Legislature. Dr. Ryerson expressly declares, that the present Depository prices were fixed irrespectively of the booksellers, on the principle which has been acted on from the beginning, that books shall be sold at the Depository for what they cost the Department. There has been considerable controversy as to the elements that should be regarded as entering into 'cost;' but the settlement of it is not necessary for the determination of the question now under consideration.

Dr. Ryerson may have been right or he may have been wrong, in his view of what constitutes 'cost,' but the charge of out-manœuvring the booksellers and attempting to render nugatory a provision of the Legislature in their favour, is reputed if (as he asserts the fact to have been) the selling price of the books sent out from the Depository continued to be their "cost"—in his sense of the term—after the passing of the Act of 1874, precisely as it had been after a long course of years previously. No doubt, in view of the fact that a main part of the change by which the Depository rate was brought down from 20 to 18 cents, took place after the passing of the Act, it may be difficult to convince sceptically-minded booksellers that there was not some strategic motive at the bottom of the changes ; but the Central Committee know of nothing beyond the circumstances of coincidence in time to warrant sus-

picion. Some of the late Chief Superintendent's statements, bearing on the matter at issue, will be found in an Appendix (A) to this report.

With respect to the vexatious regulations complained of by the booksellers, it appears from a paper laid on the table of the Central Committee, that the only regulations in the case are expressed in the very terms of the School Act. The question, however, remains: Are they vexatious? They require that the Chief Superintendent, for whom must now be substituted the Minister of Education, shall, before paying any money to School Corporations for library or prize books, receive a certified statement of the name of each work sold, its cost, edition, and style of binding. A form to facilitate such returns has been prepared by the Education Department. If any account is to be taken of "cost," it seems indispensable that the "editions" should be specified as well as the name of the book. The selling price of one edition of Macaulay's History of England may be five or ten times that of another. A return from a bookseller mentioning Macaulay's History among the library or prize books sold to Board of Trustees, but not specifying the edition, would give the Department no means of checking the return. The same remark applies to "style" of binding. Either therefore the Department must be left without the power of checking the returns of booksellers, or some such regulations as those required by the Act seem imperative. But cannot our Canadian booksellers make honest returns without having their accounts checked? Perhaps, so; yet it is the duty of a Government, in dealing with the most honourable class of persons, to satisfy itself that it receives the article for which it pays. Neglect to do this would be censurable, as it would have a direct tendency to breed dishonesty.

The regulation—or more properly the clause of the School Act, which the booksellers probably consider the most objectionable, is that which provides that the one-half payment (as I may call it) to be made by the Minister of Education, shall be on the prices specified in the printed catalogues, or in the authorized lists published in the *Journal of Education*. The booksellers desire, as their petition shows, to be permitted to supply library and prize books at their own prices; but they find themselves fettered by the circumstances that, should they make sales to a School corporation at 24, or 22, or 20 cents for the shilling sterling, while the Depository price is but 18 cents, the one-half payment which the corporation would receive, would be calculated on the 18 cents. They do not like this. True, they are able, as they allege, to compete with the Depository; but they wish to be free from restriction. In the opinion of the Central Committee, the restriction complained of is a perfectly proper one. It being the design of the Legislative apportionment to furnish good library and prize books at cheap rates; it seems reasonable that the Minister of Education should distribute the apportionment on the basis of the prices at which books can be supplied through the Depository. I must add, however, that the Depository prices ought to represent fairly the "cost," properly calculated, of each book; as otherwise, the seeming concession made to private traders by the Act of 1874, would be a mockery.

Supervision of Library and Prize Books.

Assuming that the Depository is to be continued in operation, while at the same time the privileges conceded to private booksellers by the Act of 1874 are not to be interfered with, the question next arises, What supervision of library and prize books should be taken?

At present the course followed is this. Not only the officer who is at the head of the Depository, but private booksellers also, select such books as they think proper, send in lists of these to the Minister of Education, and ask to have them placed on the authorized catalogue. The Secretary, in a communication which I received from him a short time ago, informs me that there are several thousands of books now awaiting sanction; and he adds that you wish the Central Committee to mark those of which they approve.

In the opinion of the Committee the following would be a much better method, at least, if the Central Committee, or any similar body, is to have the duty of preparing the authorized catalogue. The sanctioning Board should not be hampered, or have its labours needlessly increased, by the assistance either of the Manager of the Depository or of private booksellers. All competent agents do their work best when favoured with no advice, except such as they themselves deem it desirable to solicit. Therefore no lists of books should be sent to the Sanctioning Board by any parties, official or unofficial; but the Board should run over at stated seasons, the book lists of the principal British and Canadian publishers, and make a

choice of those books which from their title and prices seem adapted for school libraries, or for prizes. Specimen copies might then be obtained for the inspection of the Board. Of course it is quite impossible for the members of the Board to make a minute examination of all the books thus procured, nor is it necessary that this should be done. The name of a respectable publisher will commonly be a sufficient guarantee that a book, professedly on a subject fitting it to be placed in a school library, or to be awarded as a prize, is at least not positively trashy or immoral.

The thousands of books at present awaiting sanction, will not be considered by the Central Committee, till the Minister has determined the general principle, on which books are in future to be authorized.

Management of the Book Depository.

The report which the Minister desires to receive from the Central Committee is, no doubt, on the general question of the existence of the Depository, rather than the details of management. Details of management, therefore, I do not take up, indeed the Committee have not evidence sufficient to enable them to speak of these with confidence.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG.

The Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

(Enclosure with Paper No. 18.)

1. The late Chief Superintendent in the preface to the catalogue for 1857, after referring to the terms on which "books will be furnished to the municipal and school authorities," adds: "the prices are given in connection with the title of each book, and are stated in reference to the prices at which the books could be obtained in 1856, but should the British or American publishers of these books reduce the prices of any of them, a corresponding reduction will be made on the prices of them by the Department."

2. The following question was put by a Committee of the Council of Public Instruction. "Explain what changes have occurred in the cost of books in profit on their sale, or in any other way to enable the Department to reduce its ratio first from 20 cents to 19 cents, and now in the circular recently issued, to 18 cents, on the shilling sterling." To which the following reply was given. "In the year 1867, Dr. Hodgins when in England made special and better terms than he had previously enjoyed, with various publishers, which enabled us soon after his return to reduce the price of certain publications. The plan at first adopted was to reduce the price of old stock in proportion to the additional reduction on new stock, but for the past three or four years we have made the reduction on the part of the new books to the rate of 18 cents and 19 cents on the 1 shilling sterling still continuing to mark some that were considered to be extra good value for the money at the rate of 20 and 21 cents for 1 shilling sterling. This enabled us to reduce the price of that portion of old stock still on the catalogue, which was not much on demand, and to place our entire stock upon a more correct commercial basis. Some publications for the past three or four years have been marked so low as 18 cents for the 1 shilling sterling book; and it was in contemplation in July, 1874, when the last catalogue was published, to make 18 cents the uniform rate, but it was deferred till after stock-taking, at the end of the year, and until the questions in dispute as to prices of books should be settled.

Paper No. 19.

LETTER TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION BY JAMES CAMPBELL & SON ON DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT.

TORONTO, June 14th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—On page 80, *Educational Journal* for May, is an advertisement from the Education Department, stating that one hundred per cent. is allowed on all orders for Library and Prize Books sent to it over five dollars.

As this advertisement is for the benefit of the public, we beg to suggest that the same publicity which is given to the Department be also given to the Booksellers who are now equally eligible to supply books to Trustees.

We beg further to suggest that as the Department supplies Sunday School Libraries contrary to the Act of Parliament, such practice may be discontinued, and that the right of the Department to supply Text Books be enquired into.

Your obedient servants,

(Signed,) JAMES CAMPBELL & SON.

To the Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Paper No. 20.

MEMORANDUM ON LETTER OF JAMES CAMPBELL & SON, BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

As the authority to purchase books from booksellers is entirely *permissive* and in their interest alone, it is unreasonable to ask the Department to advertise for them. Every facility has been given to Messrs. Campbell & Son in the *Journal* at the usual rates.

The matter relating to Sunday Schools has been fully discussed in the "Return."

The "right of the Department to supply Text Books" has never been questioned and cannot be surrendered if the Depository be maintained.

(Signed,) J. GEORGE HODGINS,
Deputy Minister of Education.

20th June, 1876.

Paper No. 21.

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO JAMES CAMPBELL & SON.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, TORONTO,
29th June, 1876.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Honourable the Minister of Education to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and to state in reply that the *Journal of Education* is the medium of communication between the Department and the school officials, and that you are mistaken in supposing that any duty is imposed on the Department to inform the schools as to Library or Prize Books, which the bookselling trade can supply. The *Journal* is open to any advertisements that you can desire to have inserted, on the usual terms.

As to the question raised about Sunday School Libraries, I am to say that this and similar questions are under the consideration of the Minister.

I have the honour &c.,

Messrs. James Campbell & Son,
Toronto.

(Signed) ALEX. MARLING.
Secretary.

Paper No 22.

LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF EXAMINERS ON THE COST OF PRIZE AND LIBRARY BOOKS.

TORONTO, 29th June, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour to refer to the communication which I recently sent you regarding the Depository.

In that communication, I had occasion to notice the position of the booksellers that the "cost" as understood by those in the management of the Depository is not its real cost.

It was not necessary for what I had in view in my letter, that I should settle the controversy on this point between the booksellers and the Depository; but I could not avoid stating that the question is an exceedingly important one. I am still of this opinion; and indeed, my sole purpose in the present note is to say, that perhaps I did not sufficiently emphasize the statement, or give it the prominence it deserves.

It would be an entire misapprehension to regard the question as one of law merely. Some proceedings which have taken place might seem to imply that it is merely a question of law. You are no doubt aware that the late Chief Superintendent prepared an elaborate case for Chief Justice Richards, in order that, after hearing parties, a judicial decision might be given as to what "cost" means in the statute. In my humble opinion, such a decision, had it been given, would have contributed nothing to the settlement of the dispute. The vital question at issue is, not what "cost" happens to mean in the Act, but whether the intention of the Act of 1874 is not prostrated by the meaning, be it legally accurate or not—which the Depository puts upon the word "cost." For—let the law be it what it may—it is obvious, that if those in management of the Depository are allowed to sell books at what they call "cost" but what really is considerably below what the books did cost, (I do not affirm that books *are* sold by the Depository below their true cost; but the booksellers say so), the concession which the Act of 1874 seems to make to the booksellers is a mockery.

I respectfully submit, therefore, that, in fairness to the booksellers, the true elements of "cost" should be determined, not by high legal functionaries, but on principles of commercial common sense, and that the Depository prices should be conformed to the conclusion arrived at (see question 2nd, page 24, in the pamphlet entitled 'Case and correspondence respecting the prices of books for school libraries and prizes.')

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG.

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Paper No. 23.

MEMORANDUM TO THE HON. MINISTER OF EDUCATION BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER ON THE FOREGOING, IN REGARD TO OUR "COST" OF BOOKS.

The views of Professor Young are, I think, at variance with those of the late Council of Public Instruction, and of the Chief Superintendent.

The booksellers and all parties concerned know well that the Depository meaning of the word "cost" is the price at which Prize and Library Books have been furnished to School Trustees since 1851. The only question of difference which ever arose in the Council was whether the word "cost" in the Statute meant the net cost of the book (in England or the United States), with the added expense of freight, exchange, management (*i.e.* actual *outlay* in bringing the book to Toronto and sending it out to the schools), or whether to those expenses have to be further added others which have in reality never been incurred, viz., rent of Depository room, interest in the Legislative Grant, taxes on stock, &c.

Being one of a Committee of the late Council (to which this question was referred), I speak from my own knowledge of the facts. The appended Report, which I drew up, shows the difficulty experienced by the Committee on the subject, and the mode proposed for settling that difficulty.

The views of the Department on this subject, and its twenty-three years practical application of them, were well known to the booksellers when the Act of 1874 was passed. The term "mockery" cannot, therefore, in justice be applied to the acts of the Depository managers in that matter.

(Signed,) J. GEORGE HODGINS,
Deputy Minister.

Education Office, 5th July.

(Enclosure with Paper No. 23.)

Memorandum for the Very Rev. Dean Grasett, B.D., Chairman of the Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, on the subject of the Prices of Prize and Library Books.

Mr. CHAIRMAN,—Your colleagues on the Committee met to-day (as arranged at the previous meeting), and spent considerable time in discussing the question submitted, and in endeavouring to get a legal definition to the terms "cost" and "prices," which are interchangeable words used in some of the sections of the Act relating to the supply of Prize and Library Books. They had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that in making the "grant" for this service, under the 130 section of the Consolidated Public School Act, the Legislature intended that each map and prize book should be supplied to the schools "on the same terms" (as to price and the 100 per cent.), and "in the same manner (*i.e.* by the Chief Superintendent from the Depository), as books are provided for Public School Libraries"—that is, as books were provided for Public School Libraries when the original of section 130 was passed in 1851. These "terms" your colleagues find were the supply of Library Books at *cost* price (including the 100 per cent.), as defined by the Chief Superintendent in 1852, to be the same actually paid to the publisher, with the addition of a proportion of the charge for freight, duty, shipping expenses, insurance and other outlay. They cannot find that it was at that time, or subsequently, the desire or intention of the Legislature to derive any part of the Provincial revenue from a profit on books supplied from the Depository to the schools.

It is even a question whether the payments of the "salaries" of the Depository Clerks (named in sub section 5 of section 130) should be taken into account in determining the "cost" or "price" of the books. In that section not only is the money to be expended in supplying Library and Prize Books, but in paying the *salaries* of the Depository Clerks, provided as a *grant*, as is the money *granted* in section 129 for the "salaries" (as defined in Section 139) of the Public School Teachers. In neither case is there any intention indicated by the Legislature that these salaries (of teachers or Depository clerks) should be repaid into the Provincial Treasury in the shape of profits on books, or in any other way. Feeling these preliminary difficulties in the consideration of the question submitted to the Committee, your colleagues agreed that it would be unwise to proceed further in the inquiries until the Chief Superintendent had obtained an authoritative decision as to the meaning of the terms "cost," "prices" and "grants," which occur in the Section of the Act which refers to the supply to the schools of the books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction.

(Signed), J. GEORGE HODGINS.

Council Room, 2nd July, 1874.

(Private.) Paper No. 24.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF EXAMINERS TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION IN REGARD TO THE "COST" OF BOOKS.

TORONTO, 5th July, 1876.

MY DEAR SIR,—In marking this letter *private*, I merely mean that it is not intended as an official communication.

In thinking over the Depository question, with an anxious desire to see justice done to all parties and interests, it has occurred to me, since my official communications to you on the subject, that perhaps the end sought to be secured by the *regulations* in the Act of 1874, which are so grievous to the booksellers, might be attained by regulations somewhat simpler. I remain of the opinion expressed in my official letters to you, that some such regulations as those required by the Act must be exposed; but I have no doubt that if the regulations could be simplified without sacrificing any important interest, you could be disposed to meet the wishes of the booksellers in that respect.

When I return from Philadelphia, towards the latter part of the month, the Central

Committee might, should you think proper so to direct, have a conference with Mr. Campbell, as the representative of the booksellers, and with some representatives of the Depository, for the purpose of ascertaining whether regulations could not be devised satisfactory to all parties.

I am, my dear sir,
Yours very truly,
(Signed,) GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG,

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Paper No. 25.

LETTER FROM CAAIRMAN OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF EXAMINERS TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON THE "COST" OF BOOKS, &c.

SIR,—I have the honour to state that I had an interview with Mr. Campbell, at which Mr. Buchan was present; and that I afterwards talked over the matter of the Depository with Dr. May. From these conferences I am induced to think that arrangements regarding Libraries and Prize Books may be made, which, without impairing the efficiency of the Depository, will to a great extent remove the principal grievance of the bookseller.

Price at which Books should be sold at the Depository.

In order that the concessions made to the booksellers by the Act, 1874, may not be a mockery, books should not be sold from the Depository at less than their true cost.

It appears, however, that, in determining the cost of books, those in the management of the Depository have not been accustomed to take any account of "rent," of "taxes," of "interest" on the "Legislative Grant employed," or of "salaries" of clerks, beyond the $1,400 per annum, payable by statute out of grants made by the Legislature. (See "Case and Correspondence," page 24.) That every one of these particulars is an element of cost, is to me perfectly obvious. Of course, as regards the item of salaries, where a clerk is employed during part of his time elsewhere than in the Depository, only a proportionate part of his salary should be considered. You will observe that I am not presuming to offer an opinion on the legal question which it was proposed to submit to Chief Justice Richards. I merely say that, let the meaning of the word "cost" in the Act be what it may, the cost of his goods to a trader, is made up in part of rent, of taxes, of interest on capital employed, and of salaries of clerks.

The present Depository price of library and prize books—calculated on the principle of taking no account of rent, taxes, and the other items specified above is 18 cents for the shilling sterling. This, as Dr. May informs me, allows the Depository a small profit, which is used for such purposes as increase of stock.

If rent, taxes, interest on capital employed and salaries of clerks beyond the sum of $1,400, were taken into account, the Depository selling price would require to be raised to more than 18 cents for the shilling sterling—that is on supposition, of the same small profit continuing to be made, which is made at present.

What the selling price ought to be I cannot pretend to determine with any exactness. An impartial business man might be consulted on this point. Putting together the statements of Mr. Campbell, of Dr. May, and of some members of the Central Committee, who possess a measure of acquaintance with the details of the book-selling trade, I think it likely that 19 cents for the shilling sterling would fully cover the true cost of books to the Depository, and would allow a sufficient moderate profit—all that booksellers are entitled to expect, and Mr. Campbell would be content with 20 cents.

Regulations as to Library and Prize Books; The Depository Catalogue.

From the petition of the booksellers and other documents laid before the central committee, I have been led to conclude that the regulations as to library and prize books, sold by private booksellers, to school corporations were considered extremely vexatious, I find, however, from

Mr. Campbell, that what the booksellers complain of is not so much the regulations in themselves as their regulations considered in connection with the Depository Catalogue. This was to me an entirely new view of the matter.

According to the regulations, which are expressed in the terms of the school law, when library or prize books are sold by a bookseller, to a school corporation, "it is necessary, in order that the corporation may get the benefit of the Legislative grant, that a certain form be filled up, and transmitted to the Education Department, practically the task of filling up the form, falls on the booksellers, from the slip which I here insert.

Under the provisions of the Consolidated School Acts, relating to the supply of books, for schools, libraries and prizes,—one half of the prices of which is claimed by the Trustees from the department.

NAME OF BOOK.	NAMES OF PUBLISHER OF BOOK.	EDITION AND PRICE OF BOOK.				NOTES OR REMARKS.
		Edition of Books.	Style of Binding	Page of Catalogue and No. of Book.	Price charged by Booksellers.	
				Page. No.		

You will perceive that the booksellers must specify the page of the Depository Catalogue in which each book is found, and the number of the book. Now, Mr. Campbell alleges that from the manner in which the catalogue is constructed, it is often a matter of great difficulty to find a book in the catalogue.

Should the clerk of a city bookseller, when an order is received from a country customer for a number of small and cheap books, require to hunt for a long time to find the names of those books in the catalogue, the profit may not be worth the loss of time—to say nothing of the irritation excited. The case may, perhaps, not be so bad as Mr. Campbell paints it, still the booksellers appear to have some ground for complaint here; and if the annoyance to which they are subjected can be removed, it would be wise to do so. What Mr. Campbell himself proposes is that each bookseller be allowed to send in to the Minister of Education a list of the works which he may wish to have sanctioned. Should any of these be objected to let them be struck out of the list. Of course, those in the management of the Depository might, equally with private booksellers, send to the Minister of Education lists of books for approval, and the Committee appointed by the Minister to attend to this matter might, of its own accord, advise the authorization of such books as ought in their opinion, to be on the list.

This plan is not materially different from what is in force at present, and, though it differs from what I suggested in a previous letter, the Central Committee having reconsidered the subject with the fuller information they now possess as to the wishes of the booksellers, and keeping in view the great importance which, according to Mr. Campbell's representations, the booksellers attach to the point, are of opinion that the plan might be adopted, or rather that it might continue to be followed.

You will probably ask: What has this mode of proceeding in the sanctioning of library and prize books to do with the Depository catalogue, in the construction of which, as I have explained, the real grievance of the booksellers, according to Mr. Campbell, lies? I can only answer this, by laying before you the substance of Mr. Campbell's statement, as to how a bookseller would act in the event of the proposed plan being carried out. "I would send in to the Minister," Mr. Campbell said to me, "a list of the books, which from my knowledge of the trade, I consider not only suitable for library and prize books, but likely to be in demand. I would then print for my own use a catalogue of the books suggested, and to which the sanction of the Minister had been given; and this catalogue I would circulate among my customers."*

* Note by Deputy Minister.—In this way there would then be a different catalogue for each publisher of the books he wished approved, and the School trustees would have no variety in their choice. This the Legislature never intended.

Mr. Campbell supposes that, in this way a bookseller would reap the benefit of his experience and skill, in competition both with the Depository and with other booksellers, by being first in the field with a list of well-selected books. I have no doubt that he is right here; but the question remains; how would all this remove the objections of the booksellers to the manner in which the Depository catalogue has been framed? Thus, Mr. Campbell, in printing his private catalogue, might attach to the different books the numbers which they have in the Depository catalogue. He could then, in procuring from a School Corporation an order for certain works in his catalogue, find the books without difficulty by referring to the numbers. Of course, he would require, in preparing his own catalogue, to hunt up the books in the Depository catalogue, but it would be once for all, and not a perpetually recurring trouble.

I cannot help remarking, that what Mr. Campbell, on the part of the booksellers so earnestly demands—admitting that, if conceded, it would so far remove the causes of complaint which the booksellers suppose themselves to have, is a privilege which the booksellers possess already. Under the existing arrangements Mr. Campbell may send in, and has sent in, lists of books to the Minister for sanction. He wants to do this still. Be it so. He wants moreover to be allowed to print a private catalogue, containing a selection from the Depository catalogue, of the books which he himself recommends for sanction, and which received the sanction of the Minister. Who ever hindered him from doing this?* Is he not free at present, for the purposes of his trade, to print anything he likes that is not copyright?

Recommendations.

On the whole, the Central Committee, with the information they now have, would respectfully suggest the following regulations:

1. The ordinary selling price of books at the Depository, should be at the rate of 19 cents for the shilling sterling, or such other rate as an impartial man of business may advise as fairly representing the true cost of the books to the Depository.

2. The form to be filled up by school corporations, as a condition of their obtaining from the Department one half of the price of the books sold to them by private booksellers, should not be altered, at least in any material respect. (The form to which I refer is the printed form pasted above on the third sheet of this letter.†) Of course—and this is an absolutely essential point—where the "page of catalogue" and "number of book" are referred to, the Depository catalogue and number must be understood.

3. Booksellers should be allowed, as at present, to send into the Minister lists of books for sanction. Those in the management of the Depository should be permitted to do the same. The sanctioning Committee, too, should be instructed to recommend such books as they think fit.

4. As the Depository Catalogue must from time to time, undergo changes, some books being struck out, and new ones introduced; and as it is important, in order that the booksellers may have as little trouble as possible, that the number once given to a book should not be altered; the gentleman whose duty it is to prepare the Depository Catalogue, should be instructed not to alter the number once given to a book. (From a conversation which I had with Dr. May, I am satisfied that this can be done without difficulty.)

I have only to add that it should not be understood, that all the books which receive the sanction of the Minister, must of necessity be kept in the Depository. It would be unfair to the managers of that institution to require this. They should be allowed, like other traders, to make their own selections. Indeed the funds at their disposal, might not render it possible at present in a business point of view, to keep all the sanctioned works in stock. The

*Note by the Deputy Minister.—This would defeat the very object which the Depository managers have always regarded as essential to its value and usefulness, viz.—to provide the greatest possible variety of approved books which the press of England and America afford, and to publish catalogues of them for the use of the trustees. The plan above referred to would narrow the choice of books to those of one or two publishers (as we have seen is the case), at the pleasure of the bookseller.

† Appended herewith as Paper No. 27.

catalogue would be thus not so strictly a Depository Catalogue, as a Catalogue of the sanctioned books.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG.

Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Paper No. 26.

MEMORANDUM BY DR. MAY TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER ON THE REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

In my conversation with Professor Young, I told him that in *my opinion* the Depository could sell books at 18c. to the shilling sterling, and still realize a profit after paying *all expenses, including* rent, taxes, &c.

I regret that the Professor should have misunderstood me, in reference to prices, but he will no doubt remember my remarking, as a proof that the rate of 18c. to the shilling would pay, the fact that Mr. Warwick had sold a large quantity of his stock at 15c. to the shilling, that he would not sell under cost, and that the trade considered this price as the actual cost of books laid down in Toronto, including all expenses.

This would give the booksellers a clear profit of 20 per cent., which in a large wholesale business, would be considered a handsome profit. I have been informed by Mr. Marling, since my interview with Prof. Young, that one of the School Inspectors had told him that Mr. Campbell allows a premium of 10 per cent. to any person sending him an order for prize or library books'; it is not to be supposed that Mr. Campbell would do this unless he made a profit on the transaction.

If the rate is raised to 19 cts. Mr. Campbell would realize an extra profit of 4 cts. on every 5 shilling book ; this, of course would be very advantageous to Mr. Campbell, but how would it affect the Depository ? It would simply be a premium to Mr. Campbell to allow extra commissions to his agents, which the Depository has not the power to do. No doubt with these inducements Mr. Campbell would be enabled eventually to do an increased business, but this increase would be at the expense of the public schools.

We could not compete with him in offering premiums to teachers and others to send in orders. Of course this increased price would be a direct loss to our schools ; they would lose about $4 worth of books on every $100 worth purchased. The question then follows, How will this affect the Depository ? The additional profits accruing would be of no direct benefit ; our stock would gradually be increased, but that would be of no advantage.

I am glad to see that the Central Committee does not urge this change of price on the Minister, but recommend 19 cents, or such other rate as an impartial man of business may advise, after taking into consideration the actual cost of the books to the Depository.

I doubt, however, whether the Minister will think it necessary to refer to any person, if you show him the statement of cost of books supplied for the Depository, which was prepared for the Council of Public Instruction. I think this will be sufficient proof that if we charge 18 cents, we shall make a profit after paying all the working expenses included in an ordinary mercantile establishment.

In regard to the other part of Mr. Young's letter, referring to catalogues, etc., I quite agree with Professor Young, that we cannot prevent the booksellers publishing their catalogues in any form they please, so long as they conform themselves to our regulations by using the same numbers to identify the books which are already on our catalogues.

(Signed) S. P. MAY.

Paper No. 27.

(Enclosure with Paper No. 25.)

CASE AND CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING THE PRICES OF BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES.

Letter from the Chief Superintendent of Education, to the Chief Justice of Ontario, submitting the following case for his opinion.

EDUCATION OFFICE, TORONTO,
24th July, 1874.

MY LORD,—The School Law authorizes the Chief Superintendent of Education, when he deems it expedient, "to submit a case on any question arising under the High or Public "School Acts to any Judge of either of the Superior Courts for his opinion or decision, or "with the consent of such Judge, to either of the Superior Courts, for their opinion or de- "cision." In accordance with this provision of the School Law, I am induced to solicit your opinion as to what should be regarded as the cost prices of books provided by the Educational Department for Library Books and Prizes for the Public and High Schools, and who should determine those prices. I am induced to make this application under the following circumstances:—

From the beginning I have not only procured such books, but determined their prices, while the Council of Public Instruction has decided to recommend or not recommend their use; and in applying to Government and the Legislature for authority and pecuniary grants for that purpose, I have explained what I regarded as the cost of such books and the terms—cost prices—at which I proposed to make them accessible to Municipal and School Authorities only, to enable them to perform the duties imposed upon them by law in a manner the most efficient and beneficial to the public.

Of late years, it has been contended on the part of certain booksellers, that they could supply the Municipal and School Corporations with such books upon as favourable terms as the Educational Department, and that it was unjust to prevent them from doing so. I have said otherwise, but that I had no objection to afford them an opportunity of trying to do so, though I did not think it would amount to anything. Accordingly, in the School Acts passed last session, provision is made by which Municipal and School Corporations may procure of booksellers such books as are sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction for Libraries and Prizes in the Public and High Schools, and that I am to pay fifty per cent. of the prices of such books, provided that I "shall not pay more than one-half of the cost of the books so purchased elsewhere, according to the prices specified for them in the printed catalogues or in the authorized lists published in the *Journal of Education*."

It has recently been objected by certain parties that I have not, according to their construction of the law, set down the full cost of the books in my statements and estimates, and that I have placed the prices of the books below the cost; and these parties have, furthermore, insisted that the prices of any books submitted by a bookseller, and sanctioned, should be inserted in the official lists at his prices, and not those at which the same books can be procured at the Education Department. On the other hand, my view is, that such a procedure would make the Council of Public Instruction a mere advertising agency for certain booksellers to sell their books at their own prices, to be half paid for out of the public revenue, whereas the Legislature never intended that the prices of books for libraries and prizes in the Public Schools should be increased beyond cost prices to the Municipal and School Corporations, and that these cost prices must be determined by the Chief Superintendent, or by the Council of Public Instruction, who have nothing to do with the prices at which booksellers may dispose of their books, but who must determine the prices in the authorized printed catalogues at which the books can be procured at the Depository of the Education Department.

As the new law does not clearly define as to whether the prices of the books on the official catalogues are to be determined as heretofore, or by the Council of Public Instruction, I have thought proper to refer it to the Council to fix the prices, as well as authorize the books, and suggesting the appointment of a committee to report upon the principle and sale

of prices at which the books authorized may be procured at the Department. That Committee reported as follows :—

"The Chairman presented the report of the Committee appointed at the last meeting in reference to the principles on which the prices of books are fixed."

"The Report was to the effect that, the Committee felt that there were certain preliminary difficulties in the consideration of the question submitted to them, and agreed that it would be unwise to proceed further in the inquiry until the Chief Superintendent had obtained an authoritative decision as to the meaning of the terms "cost," "prices," and "grant," which occur in the sections of the Act which refer to supply to the schools of the books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction."

Under these circumstances, and in accordance with this recommendation of the Committee, I submit for your opinion the questions involved.

In order that you may examine the whole subject from the beginning, as far as you may think proper, I have requested the Deputy Superintendent (Dr. Hodgins), to prepare a memorandum, giving extracts from the Laws, and Reports, &c., in which the words "cost," "prices," and "terms" have been introduced and repeated in successive acts, and other official papers. This memorandum will show the immense pains which I have taken to advance, step by step, and avail myself of the best experience and counsel of Europe and America, to mature this important branch of our educational system, and in what sense all the terms submitted have been employed and applied from the beginning. On the 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, [23rd, 24th], pages of this memorandum will be found a succinct recapitulation of the question on which your opinion is solicited.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. Ryerson.

The Honourable
The Chief Justice of Ontario.

Case.—*Submitted by the Chief Superintendent of Education to the Honourable Chief Justice Richards of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench, under the authority of the 3rd clause of the 32nd section of the Consolidated School Act, 37th Vict., chap. 27, as follows :—*

32. The Chief Superintendent of Education shall have authority, should he deem it expedient :

3. To submit a case on any question arising under the High or Public School Acts, to any judge of either of the Superior Courts, for his opinion and decision, or with the consent of uch judge, to either of the Superior Courts, for their opinion and decision.

In construing the word "*prices*" in sub-section 26, and clause *c* of sub-section 27, of section 27 of the above quoted Act, taken in connection with the same word in sub-section 27, and No. 4 of clause *a* of sub-section 29, of section 31 of the same Act ; and in construing the word "cost" in sub-section 29, and Nos. 3 and 4 of clause *a* of the same sub-section, two questions arise :—

1. Whether (a) the Council of Public Instruction, (b) the booksellers (or other parties) sending books for the approval of the Council, or (c) the Chief Superintendent, has the right to fix the *prices* at which the books shall be supplied to schools.

2. Whether the words "prices" and "cost" used in the above quoted sections are convertible terms, and mean the same thing, or whether the meaning of these words : "prices and cost" is not affected by the phrase "upon the same terms," used in sub-section 9, of section 33 of the Act, which originally occurs in the School Act of 1855, but which was inserted in the Consolidated Act of 1859, and also in this Consolidated and Amended Act of 1874.

The portions of the School Act of 1874, quoted above, are as follows :—

Powers and Duties of the Council.

27. It shall be the duty of such Council, and it is hereby empowered :—

D. *Text, Prize and Library Books—Superannuated Teachers—Annual Report.*

24. To examine, and at its discretion, recommend or disapprove of text-books for the use of schools, or books for school libraries and prizes ;

25. To make regulations in regard to school libraries;

26. To examine, or cause to be examined from time to time, any books, the names of which have not heretofore appeared in the catalogues of the Educational Department, and which may be forwarded (with a statement of their *prices*) to the Department by the booksellers or other parties, who may have the same for sale;

27. To determine whether such books ought or ought not to receive the sanction of the Council for libraries or prizes in the Public and High Schools, and Collegiate Institutes;

(*a*) The decision of the Council in respect thereof is, without delay, to be communicated to the said booksellers or other parties concerned;

(*b*) The books so forwarded are, on application, to be returned to the persons forwarding the same;

(*c*) The names and *prices* of the books when sanctioned shall be published in the next number of the *Journal of Education*, with the dates respectively at which the books were received at the Education Department and laid before the Council for examination.

Duties of the Chief Superintendent of Education.

31. It shall be the duty of the Chief Superintendent of Education:—

26. To submit to the Council of Public Instruction, all books or manuscripts which are placed in his hands, with the view of obtaining the recommendation or sanction of the Council for their introduction as text, library or prize books;

27. To cause to be printed from time to time a catalogue, showing the names and *prices* of all the books which are or may be sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction for libraries and for prizes in the Collegiate Institutes, High and Public Schools;

28. To cause to be printed each half year, a catalogue of any additional books which may be sanctioned by the Council for said purposes;

29. To authorize the payment, out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose, of one-half of the cost of any prize or library books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction, for Public and High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, which may be purchased by a Municipal or School Corporation from any bookseller or other parties, instead of at the Depository of the Education Department;

(*a*) Such payment shall be made to the order of the Corporation purchasing any of the books specified in the catalogues or lists sanctioned by the Council, on the following conditions:—

1. The Chief Superintendent shall be duly certified of the facts;

2. He shall be furnished with the usual guarantee as to the proper disposition of the books, which may be purchased elsewhere than at the Depository;

3. He shall be furnished with certified vouchers of the *cost*, edition, and binding of the books so purchased elsewhere;

4. He shall not pay more than one half of the *cost* of the books so purchased elsewhere, according to the *prices* specified for them in the printed catalogues or in the authorized lists of such books published in the *Journal of Education*.

Certain Grants Authorized.

33. Out of any *grants* made from time to time in aid of Public and High Schools, the Lieutenant-Governor may authorize the expenditure annually of such sums as may from time to time be voted by the Legislative Assembly for the purposes following:—

2. *Through the Chief Superintendent of Education.*

6. For the purchase, from time to time, of books, publications, specimens, models, and objects, suitable for a Canadian library and Museum, to be kept in the Normal School buildings at Toronto, and to consist of books, publications, and objects relating to education and other departments of science and literature, and specimens, models, and objects illustrating the physical resources and artificial productions of Canada, especially in reference to mineralogy, zoology, agriculture, and manufactures;

7. For supplying a copy of the *Journal of Education* to every School Corporation, and every School Inspector;

8. For the establishment and support of libraries in connection with the Schools;

9. For providing the Schools with maps and apparatus and prizes *upon the same terms* and in the same manner as books are provided for School Libraries ;

10. For the payment of a salesman and assistant clerks of the public library, prize, map, and apparatus depositories, in connection with the Department of Public Instruction.

The whole of the sub-sections 26 and 27 of section 27, and sub-sections 27, 28 and 29 of section 31, of the Act 37 Vic., cap. 27, are *new*, and form part of the amendments made to the School law in 1874 ; but sub-sections 24 and 25 of section 27, sub-section 26 of sub-section 31, and the whole of section 33, formed part of the Consolidated Statutes, 22 Vic., cap. 64. The sub-sections quoted were originally passed in 1850, while section 33 was passed in 1855.

In construing the word "cost," in the Act of 1874, the phrase "upon the same terms" (which was first used by the Legislature in the School Law in 1855 and re-enacted in a consolidated form—without alteration—in 1859 and 1874) would throw some light on the question, especially as the "terms" upon which schools were supplied with library books in 1855 are explained by the Chief Superintendent of Education at that time to mean "at cost,"—including charges—with the 100 per cent. bonus allowed by Legislature.

In 1848, Dr. Ryerson, the Chief Superintendent, submitted a draft of a Bill to the Government, in the 13th section of which he proposes to set apart £2,000 ($8,000) annually for commencing a system of school libraries, accompanying it with the following remarks :—

"The *Thirteenth Section* proposes a small provision for commencing the establishment of Common School Libraries. I propose to do so on the same principle and in the same manner with that which has been so extensively and so successfully adopted in the neighbouring States—except that the regulations for this purpose are *there* made by the sole authority of the State Superintendent of Schools, whereas I propose that *here* such regulations shall be sanctioned by the Governor-General in Council.

On the importance of such a provision, I need not say a word. On this section becoming law, I shall soon be prepared to submit a draft of the requisite regulations for carrying it into effect, and also to suggest means by which a selection of suitable books may be made and procured from England and the School Libraries of the States of Massachusetts and New York, and submitted to the consideration of the Board of Education, and then the modes of procuring, *at the lowest prices*, for any part of Upper Canada, the books which the Board may sanction for Common School Libraries."

The provision here recommended was partially adopted in the School Act of 1849. With a view to prepare the way to establish the contemplated libraries, the Chief Superintendent, in 1849, addressed the following letter to the Provincial Secretary :—

EDUCATION OFFICE, TORONTO, 16th July, 1849.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to the favourable consideration of the Governor-General in Council the following remarks and recommendations, with a view to the introduction of School Libraries into Upper Canada, as contemplated by each of the Common School Acts which have been sanctioned by the Legislature. There can be but one opinion as to the great importance of introducing into each township of Upper Canada, as soon as possible, a Township Library, with branches for the several school sections, consisting of a suitable selection of entertaining and instructive books, in the various departments of biography, travels, history, (ancient and modern), natural philosophy and history, practical arts, agriculture, literature, political economy, &c., &c., &c. It is not easy to conceive the vast and salutary influence that would be exerted upon the entire population, the young portion especially, in furnishing useful occupation for leisure hours, in improving the tastes and feelings, in elevating and enlarging the views, in prompting to varied and useful enterprize, that would flow from the introduction of such a fountain of knowledge and enjoyment in each township in Upper Canada.

But in order even to commence so noble and beneficial an undertaking, two things are necessary ; the first is, to obtain, and for the Board of Education to examine and select the proper books ; the second is to render such books easily and *cheaply accessible to every part of the Province*. As the books are not and cannot be published in this country, they must, for some time at least, be obtained from abroad—from England and the United States, arrangements must be made for that purpose, as the ordinary agencies of book trade are insufficient.

When in Dublin, in 1845, I arranged with the National Board to obtain their books for schools in Upper Canada at cost prices, much below the wholesale prices, to the British public; and by means of that excellent arrangement those excellent books are now sold in Upper Canada, about twenty per cent. cheaper than they were three years since; and we now say to each of our Canadian booksellers, that if he will agree not to sell those books at more that two-pence currency for every penny sterling that he pays for them, we will give him a certificate to the National Board in Dublin to obtain them at the reduced prices. By this simple arrangement private trade is encouraged, at excellent profits, rather than interfered with; and the books are then sold at a much lower price than heretofore. The selling prices of the books are published in the printed forms and regulations for schools, and are uniform in every part of the Province, and known to every Trustee and Teacher. A Canadian house has reprinted an edition of most of these books (fac-similes of the Dublin edition), at even lower prices than the imported editions.

Now, I propose the adoption of an extension of the same arrangements to procure books for School Libraries. I propose to make an arrangement with some of the book societies in London (such as the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, &c)., and the cheap library publishers in London and Edinburgh, for procuring such of their works as may be required for school libraries in Canada, at the lowest prices. I propose to make the same arrangements with the National Board in Dublin, for procuring portions of the series of books which they have lately selected and adopted for School Libraries, that we have heretofore made in order to procure their school books. And as but few of the books composing the School Libraries in the neighbouring States of New York and Massachusstts are of an exclusively local and politically objectionable character, and as the greater part of their School Library books are as suitable to the youth of Canada as to those of the United States—many of the books being reprints of English works, and translations from the French and German —I propose to made a similar arrangement with School Library (and perhaps some other) publishers in New York and Boston, that I have above proposed to make with English publishers.

According to this arrangement, I proposed to secure *at the cheapest rate possible* to the reading youth and people of Canada, the best popular works which emanate from the British and American Press. There will be a *British* and an *American* series, with the price affixed to each, and directions where and how they may be procured, leaving to local councils or committees the option of selecting from either series, or from both, at their discretion.

In the catalogue of these library books, I think a characteristic notice of each book should be inserted (including two or three sentences, but of course requiring considerable thought, judgment and labour in the preparation). A catalogue should be furnished to each local council, and the books generally be also brought to the notice of the public, in the columns of the *Journal of Education*, and personally by the Chief Superintendent, during his visits to the various districts, one of which I had intended to make during the latter part of the current year. Should the plan thus briefly explained be approved by the Governor-General in Council, I propose to devote the next three or four months to its accomplishment, by going to the United States and England, to make the arrangements suggested, and to select and procure specimen books for the school libraries, to lay before the Board of Education for Upper Canada, for their examination and judgment.

With these remarks I submit this important subject to the favourable consideration of the Governor-General in Council; and should the task I have proposed be approved of, I will lose no time in prosecuting it. In the meantime, I would respectfully recommend that John George Hodgins, Esq., Senior Clerk in the Education Office, be authorized, by the Governor-General in Council, to act as Deputy-Superintendent for Schools for Upper Canada, during my absence, as I have entire confidence in his integrity, knowledge, and ability.

The Honourable James Leslie, (Signed) E. Ryerson.
Secretary of the Province, Montreal.

Any further steps for giving effect to the plan thus proposed, were deferred for more than a year.

In 1850, the Chief Superintendent again submitted a plan for the establishment of school libraries to the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, in a letter, of which the following is a copy :—

EDUCATION OFFICE,

TORONTO, 21st September, 1850.

SIR,—I beg most respectfully to solicit the attention of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, to the letter which I had the honour to address you the 16th July, 1849, on the steps preparatory to the introduction of school libraries in the several counties, cities, towns, and villages of Upper Canada. That letter was printed as part of the correspondence in the School Law of Upper Canada, laid before the Legislature at its last session, and printed, pages 55, 56. I hereto annex a copy of it [see the letter last above quoted].

I am fully satisfied of the propriety and practical character of the recommendations contained in the annexed copy of that letter. During the last few weeks I have attended at Philadelphia, a National Convention of three days' continuance, the object of which was the universal diffusion of thorough Christian education throughout the several United States, embracing a consideration of the several systems of public instruction and educational institutions, from primary schools up to universities, their defects, and remedies for them. This convention was attended by State Governors and State Superintendents of Schools, Presidents and Professors of Colleges, Educationists, and distinguished teachers from various States. In my intercourse with many of these gentlemen of large experience in matters of public education, I found, without exception, the most *unreserved approval of the plan* which I propose for the introduction of school libraries into Upper Canada. I was informed by several of them that the most serious drawback to the success of their system of school libraries with the older States, is the heterogeneous collection of unsuitable books which have been largely introduced into them, by the pressing competition of the rival publishers and itinerant book vendors, in the absence of any judicious State Board to select and recommend library books. Repeated attempts have been made in the States of Massachussetts and New York to remedy this evil, which has brought discredit upon their library system, and paralyzed it in many places; but though the subject has been discussed in books, pamphlets, and addresses, and pressed in official reports, the evil continues, from opposition made by the rival parties who are *each interested in selling his own books, and at as high prices as possible.* I was assured, without exception, by these experienced American educationists, that had they at the commencement of their State system adopted regulations and measures similar to those provided by law in Upper Canada, in regard to School *Text* and *Library Books*, the progress of their schools and libraries would have been much more rapid and satisfactory; and some of them expressed the opinion that there was little hope of much improvement in their common schools, beyond the limits of cities and towns, until some such system as had been provided by law amongst us, should be adopted among them in regard to text and library books, and the inspection of schools. Indeed, one gentleman, who has for some time been President of the Board of Education for the State of Michigan, and who devotes most of his time to delivering educational lectures throughout the States, applied and obtained from me documents that would enable him to prepare a lecture on the system of public instruction in Upper Canada; which he intends to make the subject of one of the short course of four or five lectures, which he is accustomed to deliver in each of the principal towns in the State. The Connecticut State Superintendent of Schools (who has been an Educational State Officer for many years, has visited Canada, and made himself familiar with our system and school statistics), stated on one occasion, that more progress has been made in Upper Canada, in the system of common schools, during the last five years, than in any State of the American Union; and that the new school law in Upper Canada was an improvement upon that of any of their States.

Such opinions from such quarters are not a little gratifying and encouraging to me; and I found by conversation with booksellers, that the plan detailed in the annexed copy of letter, in regard to the mode of procuring and selecting books for school libraries, will be found eminently economical and advantageous to our local councils, and all engaged in the establishment of public school libraries.

"I propose during the next three or four months to make the necessary tour and arrangements for carrying that plan into effect, and therefore pray that His Excellency will be pleased to order a warrant for five hundred pounds (£500) to issue in my favour, to be expended and accounted for in the manner stated in the annexed copy of letter."

"To the Honourable James Leslie,
Secretary of the Province, Toronto."

"(Signed) E. RYERSON.

The following is a copy of the Provincial Secretary's reply to the foregoing letter :—

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Toronto, 27th September, 1850.

"REVEREND SIR,—I am commanded by the Governor-General to inform you that His Excellency has had under his consideration in Council your letter of the 16th July, 1849, and the 21st instant, suggesting the propriety of your proceeding to Europe, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements for the establishment of School Libraries in the various Townships in Upper Canada, and requesting the issue of an accountable warrant for the sum of £500, for that purpose, to be charged on the grant for establishing School Libraries in the various Townships of Upper Canada.

"His Excellency has been pleased to direct the issue of the warrant in your favour for the above amount, and has also granted you leave of absence to proceed to Europe, to make the arrangements contemplated in your letter. His Excellency has also been pleased to authorize John George Hodgins, Esquire, to act as your Deputy during your absence.

"(Signed,) J. LESLIE,
"*Secretary.*

"The Reverend E. Ryerson, D.D.,
Chief Superintendent of Education for U.C."

In a Report to the Legislature in 1858, embodying these letters, Dr. Ryerson remarks as follows :—

"Having proceeded to England, I was enabled by the aid of the Privy Council on Education, as narrated in a preceding part of this report (pp. 29–34), to make advantageous arrangements with publishers in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, for the purchasing of books for our Public School Libraries, and made considerable selections for examination from their catalogues. I afterwards made similar arrangements with publishers, and similar selections from their catalogues, in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. The examination of the books thus selected occupied a great part of my morning and evening hours during nearly two years.

"But before deciding on the kind of libraries and the mode of establishing them, or submitting regulations for that purpose to the consideration of the Council of Public Instruction, I made a tour of Upper Canada, and, as previously announced in a printed circular, I submitted the whole question as to the mode of supplying and establishing public libraries to a convention in each county, consisting of the Municipal Councillors, Clergy, Magistrates, Local Superintendents, Trustees, and as many other persons as chose to attend, and received an expression of strong, and in most cases, unanimous approbation of the system which has been adopted, and is still pursued, for establishing and extending public libraries in the various Municipalities of Upper Canada.

"Thus far, from acting on the mere imaginings of my own mind, without authority, and at variance with the example of the mother country, I have had the express authority and aid of the Governor-General in Council, have largely advised with experienced and able educationists in the neighbouring States, have followed the example, and been aided by the co-operation of the Government Board of Education in Ireland, and of Her Majesty's Privy Committee on Education in England, have consulted and received the cordial expression of approving co-operation from a county convention in each county of Upper Canada, in regard to that very system of public libraries, which has been so grossly assailed by certain parties in Toronto."

In 1851, Dr. Ryerson, in an address which he presented to Lord Elgin, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the Normal School, thus refers to the subject of school library books, and their prices :—

"Arrangements have recently been made, and will be carried into effect in the course of a few months, by which maps, school-books, and every description of school apparatus will b provided for and rendered accessible upon the same terms to all the public schools of Uppe Canada;—also, books for libraries, including a large collection of books best adapted fo

popular reading, that issue from both the British and American press. By the arrangements which have been entered into, and which have been effected in England by the aid of the Imperial Government, through the cordial and active exertions of Earl Grey, these facilities for school improvement and general knowledge, will be rendered accessible to the municipal and school authorities throughout Upper Canada *at an average expense of more than twenty-five per cent. less than they could* have otherwise been procured, if procured at all ;—facilities which obstacles hitherto insuperable, have prevented any Educational Department in the neighbouring States from providing for the advancement of popular education and the diffusion of useful knowledge."

In November, 1852, the Legislature having asked for a Return showing "what books, &c., for schools or teachers had been purchased or sold by the Superintendent of Education, West," Dr. Ryerson reported as follows :—

"Next to providing plans for school houses, school text-books, maps and other requisites, I deemed the establishment of public school libraries of the greatest importance, and learned how many errors had been committed, and how many comparative failures had been experienced, in attempts to establish public school libraries in the neighbouring States, I thought to avoid such mistakes and disappointments, as far as possible, by selecting a variety of the most suitable and popular reading books in each department of human knowledge, and by making arrangements for procuring them and supplying them to each municipality and school corporation, upon the *lowest terms possible*—thus partially aiding parties establishing libraries in the selection of them, and giving them the assurance that every book included in the list from which they might make their selection, had been carefully examined and recommended by disinterested persons (*i.e.*, in the Council of Public Intruction), and rendered accessible to them *at the lowest cost prices, from a department, the building and all the contingent expenses of which were otherwise provided for.* With a view to these objects, I submitted to the Governor-General, the recommendations contained in letters 1 and 2 of the accompanying appendix ; and my recommendations having been approved by His Excellency, I proceeded to make the preliminary arrangements to give them effect, in the manner detailed in letters 3, 4, and 5 of the accompanying appendix Lord Grey and the Marquis of Landsdowne (who was then Chairman of the Privy Council Committee on Education), took a lively interest in the arrangements which I proposed ; and the letters referred to will show the pains they took to promote the objects I had in view. It will be seen by papers 6, 7, and 8, in the appendix to these returns, that Her Majesty's Government had made arrangements to procure, for the schools aided by Parliamentary grants in England, school maps and books at an average *forty-three* per cent. below the ordinary selling prices ; and through the interposition of Her Majesty's Government, I was enabled to render that arrangement available to schools in Canada.

"At the same time, it occurred to me that I might make a still further and more advantageous arrangement. In the arrangement with the Privy Council Committee, I was restricted to the transmission of four orders per year—to the publications contained in their list—and also to their agents (Messrs. Longman & Co.,) who were allowed *five per cent.* for executing their orders. After conferring with the Secretary of the Privy Council Committee on Education, who entered fully into my views, I called personally upon the principal publishers concerned, to ascertain whether they would execute my orders directly from Canada for their publications, upon the terms to which they had consented through the medium of the Privy Council Committee on Education. To my proposition, all the publishers to whom I applied, both in England and Scotland, unanimously and readily assented—having no wish that a London house should receive five per cent. for packing and forwarding their publications, and being desirous of extending their business connections in Canada. By this arrangement I saved the five per cent. otherwise payable to the Longmans on all publications procured through them. I was enabled to extend the arrangement to other publications than the text books and maps contained in the Privy Council Committee's list, and to make it available for maps and apparatus of every description, and to books for libraries, for which I selected specimens to the number of nearly 2,000 volumes. But to accomplish all these objects, I found, required as many months as I had calculated weeks.

"6th. After my return from England, I made arrangements with publishers in New York, Philadelphia and Boston, similar to those which I had made with British publishers,

for procuring such school maps and other school requisites as I might require, and also books for libraries, selecting about 2,000 volumes as specimens.

"7th. As all the publications included in these arrangements were to be paid for on receipt of the invoices from England, and on receipt of the books themselves from the United States, and were to be disposed of to no other parties than municipalities and school authorities, and for school purposes alone, the publishers agreed, of course, to supply them below the ordinary wholesale prices.

* * * * * *

"9th. The result of these arrangements is, that every description of the best school maps, apparatus and text books required for the schools, and the books for libraries, are and will be supplied to the remotest municipalities in Upper Canada *at lower prices than the same publications can be purchased by the public where they are printed*, either in the United States or Great Britain.

"10th. *As to the rule by which the prices of these publications are determined, inquiries were made of several parties in Toronto, as to the average expenses per cent. for books or stationery imported from England or the United States; and a corresponding charge was added to the original prices of the publications in question.* In case the expenses are not, at any time, equal to the estimate made of them, the balance is added to the *Depository Fund*, the accounts in connection with which are kept distinct from all other accounts of the Department. Should the fund amount to about a thousand pounds, it would replace the advances temporarily made from the library appropriation."

The "terms" on which library books were first supplied to the schools were explained by the Chief Superintendent in the following extracts from circulars issued in October, 1853, and January, 1854:—

(1.) *Extract from Circular dated October*, 1853.

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES—FIRST APPOINTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY GRANT.

To the Municipalities of Townships, Cities, Towns, Villages, and School Sections.

The time having arrived for making the first apportionment of the Legislative Grant for the establishment of School Libraries in Upper Canada, the Chief Superintendent of Schools proceeds to explain the basis on which he proposes to make the apportionment, and the manner in which he thinks, under the circumstances, it should be made.

2. After much consideration, and in harmony with the principle on which the School Fund in each Municipality is distributed, *local exertion* (and not property or population) appears to be the most equitable basis of apportioning the Library Grant, and that which is likely to give the most general satisfaction and to exert the most beneficial influence. The principle of aiding each Municipality (whether it be a Township, City, Town, Village, or School Section) in proportion as it exerts and helps itself, is, upon the whole, unobjectionable, and is best calculated to excite and bring into action that kind of interest and public spirit which are the life of any general system of social advancement. This, therefore, is the principle on which the Library Grant will be distributed.

3. As to the *amount* to be apportioned to each Municipality—whether a School Section or Township—it has been decided to add, in the first apportionment, *seventy-five* per cent. to all sums raised by local exertion—thus apportioning £9 for every £12, and £75 for every £100 raised in a Municipality, and so on, in the same ratio for larger or smaller sums raised by local effort.

* * * * *

(2.) *Extract from Circular, dated January*, 1854.

"As I have been able to obtain many of the books on more favourable terms than formerly, you will find a considerable number of your books *charged less than at the prices marked in the printed catalogue—one object* that I have in view being to *provide* the books at the *least possible expense* to the Municipalities.

In February, 1855, the following official circular and notice relating to School Librarie were issued :—

(OFFICIAL CIRCULAR.)

To Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada, who have established Public Libraries.

The undersigned has great pleasure in stating to all those Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada, who have established Public Libraries, [upwards of 200 in number,] that he will add *twenty-five per cent.* on the sums heretofore apportioned to them severally for Public Libraries. the apportionment will thus be increased to one hun dred per cent. upon all sums of money raised from local sources for the same purpose.

Each Municipal Council and School Corporation concerned can select books from the Official Catalogue to the amount of twenty-five per cent. upon the sum or sums already contributed by them, and forward their orders to this department; and the books will be packed up and forwarded as fast as the work can be performed. In case any particular book or books requested may not be on hand, or cannot be procured, corresponding books will, as far as possible, be selected from the catalogue and forwarded ; and, when desired, the selections of any part, or of the whole of the books to the amount apportioned, will be made by this department.

In each case, please state the person to whom, and conveyance by which, it is desired that the books shall be sent.

E. RYERSON.

EDUCATION OFFICE,
Toronto, February 1st, 1855.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTICE.

To Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

Until further notice, the undersigned will apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada under the regulations provided according to law.

E. RYERSON.

EDUCATION OFFICE,
Toronto, February 1st, 1855.

The "terms" on which Public School Libraries were supplied by the Education Department in 1855 are more fully stated in the following account of the "Duties of the Department," published in the *Journal of Education* for March of that year, as follows :—

DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR UPPER CANADA.

As much is said, and much inquiry is abroad in regard to the duties of Public Departments, it may not be improper to give some account of the duties of this department.

* * * * * * * * *

The several branches into which the department has been divided, are as follows :

1. *Council of Public Instruction.*
2. *Map and School Apparatus Depository.*
3. *Public School Depository.*—This branch includes the procuring and providing books for the Public Libraries, catalogues, regulations and correspondence relating to them. Nearly 4,000 *different works* are contained in the catalogue, the selection and examination of which, for the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, and arrangements for procuring which, from more than fifty publishers in Great Britain and the United States, have involved an

amount of time and labour during more than two years that can hardly be conceived. Not far from 150,000 volumes have been procured, and upwards of 90,000 volumes have been supplied to municipalities and school sections, during little more than twelve months. To obtain and keep up the necessary supply of books, orders for them must be made up and sent off from month to month, the payments made, and the books, when received, must be examined by the invoices, and deposited in their respective places; then when an application is received from a municipal or school corporation, with a list of the books desired, or request that books to a certain amount be selected for them, the books desired or selected are marked on the margin of the printed general catalogue, one copy of which is used and retained in the department for each library. On the outside of this catalogue are entered the name of the municipal corporation, the number of the library, the amount of the local appropriation and governmental apportionment, the value of the selection made by the local authorities, together with such other entries as may be required, such as the address of the party to whom the library is to be sent, dates and numbers of letters relating to the library, &c. After having been examined by the Chief or Deputy Superintendent, and such additions made to the selection of books as will cover the amount of the library desired, the catalogue is sent to the Library Depository, where the books are selected and checked, and carried to the packing room, where they are again called over, checked and packed in boxes, together with the necessary quantity of labels and wrapping paper for covers for the books sent. From this checked catalogue the invoice is made out and sent to the corporation for whom the library is intended, together with the shipper's or carrier's receipt for the boxes delivered.

The pecuniary advantage of this system of libraries to the country may be conceived, when it is considered not only how great a variety of useful books are introduced and made accessible to all parts of Upper Canada, which were never before brought into the country, but that *these books have been purchased on most favourable terms, and are supplied at cost*, and that the entire expense of management, including difference of exchange, transportation, insurance and all contingencies, has not exceeded thirteen per cent. on the sums paid for the books in England and the United States.

Two months after this statement of the "terms" on which Public Libraries were supplied to the Schools, the following Act was passed, in which the Legislature recognised these terms and directed that they should be applied to the supply of maps and apparatus as follows:

AN ACT TO MAKE FURTHER PROVISIONS FOR THE GRAMMAR AND COMMON SCHOOLS OF UPPER CANADA, 18TH VICTORIA, CHAPTER 132.

[*Received Royal Assent, 30th May*, 1855.]

Whereas it is expedient to make further provision for the promotion of education and the diffusion of useful knowledge in connection with the Grammar and Common Schools of Upper Canada: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. The additional *grants* which have been made or may be made during the present session of the Legislature, for Grammar and Common School purposes, in Upper Canada, shall be annually disposed off, in the following manner:

3. A sum not exceeding two thousand and five hundred pounds per annum, may be expended in providing the Grammar and Common Schools in Upper Canada, with maps and apparatus, *upon the same terms, and in the same manner* as books are or may be provided for Public School Libraries;

4. A sum not exceeding three thousand five hundred pounds per annum, may be expended as heretofore provided by law, in further aiding in the establishment and extension of Public Libraries in connexion with the Grammar and Common Schools in Upper Canada;

5. A sum not exceeding three hundred and fifty pounds per annum, shall be allowed for the payment of two assistant clerks and a salesman of the Public Library, map and school apparatus depositories, in connection with the Department of Public Instruction in Upper Canada;

7. The whole of the remainder of the said *grants* shall be expended as further aid to Common School Acts of Upper Canada, and of this Act.

After the passing of this Act, the Chief Superintendent issued the following notices in the *Journal of Education* for June 1855:—

Public Library Notice.

To Municipal and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

Until further notice, the undersigned will apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada, under the regulations provided according to law.

In selecting from the General and Supplementary Catalogues, parties will be particular to give merely the catalogue number of the book required, and the Department from which it is selected. To give the names of books without their number and department (as is frequently done), causes great delay in the selection and despatch of a library. The list should be on a distinct sheet of paper from the letter.

E. Ryerson.

Education Office,
Toronto, 1st February, 1855.

Maps and Apparatus.—Notice.

The Legislature having acceded to my recommendation to grant annually, from the commencement of the current year, a sufficient sum of money to enable this Department to supply Maps and Apparatus (not text books) to Grammar and Common Schools, *upon the same terms as Library Books are now supplied to Trustees and Municipalities*, the undersigned will be happy to add one hundred per cent. to any sum or sums, not less than five dollars, forwarded to the Department, *and to forward Maps, Apparatus, Charts and Diagrams to the value of amount thus augmented*, upon receiving a list of the articles required by the Trustees.

E. Ryerson.

Education Office,
Toronto, 18th June, 1855.

During 1856, 1857, 1858 and 1859, these "terms" and "manner" of supply remained unchanged, and, in 1859, the various Common School Acts were consolidated into 22nd Vic., ch. 64. The Sections of the Act of 1855, just quoted, will be found in Section 120, as follows:

120. Out of the share of the Legislative School Grant coming to Upper Canada, and the additional sums of money from time to time *granted* in aid of Common Schools, or in aid of Common and Grammar Schools in Upper Canada, and not otherwise expressly appropriated by law, the Governor in Council may authorize the expenditure of the following sums annually.

1. *Under the Regulations of the Council of Public Instruction.*

* * * * * *

2. *Through the Chief Superintendent of Education.*

C. For the establishment and support of Public School Libraries, in connection with the Common and Grammar Schools, a sum not exceeding $26,000.

D. In providing the Grammar and Common School with maps and apparatus *upon the same terms and in the same manner as books are provided for Public School Libraries*, a sum not exceeding $10,000.

E. For the payment of two assistant clerks, and a salesman of the public library map, and school apparatus depositories, in connection with the Department of Public Instruction, a sum not exceeding $1,400.

These "terms" and the manner of supply continued unchanged during the years 1859 to 1874, inclusive. In 1874, the provisions of this 120th section of the Act 22 Vic., ch. 64, were again consolidated, and will be found in section 33 of the Act, 37 Vic., ch. 27, as follows:

10. Certain Grants Authorized.

33. Out of any grants made from time to time in aid of Public and High Schools, the Lieutenant-Governor may authorize the expenditure annually of such sums as may be voted by the Legislative Assembly for the purposes following:

1. *Under the authority of the Council of Public Instruction.*

* * * * * *

2. *Through the Chief Superintendent of Education.*

8. For the establishment and support of libraries in connection with the Schools;

9. For providing the Schools with maps and apparatus, and prizes upon the same terms, and in the same manner as books are provided for School Libraries;

10. For the payment of a salesman and assistant clerks of the public library, prize, map and school apparatus depositories, in connection with the Department of Public Instruction.

It will be thus seen that the phrase "*on the same terms,*" which occurs in the Act of 1874, refers to the "terms" (as to the "prices" or "cost" of the library books supplied to the Schools) which were explained and defined by the Chief Superintendent in 1855, the date at which the original Act containing these words was passed.

These "terms" the Chief Superintendent shows were the furnishing of Public School Library books from the Depository "*at cost*"—that is, the price which he paid for these books, including exchange, transportation, insurance and all "contingencies, not exceeding thirteen per cent."

Another question here arises as to whether in fixing the "*prices*" or "cost" of the books supplied to the schools by (1) the Council of Public Instruction, (2) the booksellers, or (3) the Chief Superintendent of Education, the charge for salaries of clerks and salesman in the Educational Depository, at all events to the extent of $1,400 per annum, as fixed by the Act, should be reckoned in the "cost" or "prices" of books furnished to the Schools. The Act, as will be seen, provides for the Depository salaries out of a "*Grant*" or "Gift" by the Legislature, as much so as the "Grant" or "*Gift*" for superannuated teachers, *Journal of Education*, or other object, as mentioned in the 120th section of the Consolidated Act of 1859, or in the 23rd section of the Act of 1874.

A further question has been raised, and that is, whether in fixing the "prices" or cost of prize and library books, an estimated sum for *rent*, for *taxes*, and for *interest* on the Legislative Grant (none of which have ever formed part of the expenditure of the Depository), should be included in those "prices" and cost of the books—in other words, whether the Education Department should provide for an absolute profit out of the books supplied to the Schools, over and above expenses, which would, of course, be payable into the Provincial Treasury, and form part of the casual revenue.

Having now stated the case, and given copious extracts from the various Statutes, official explanations, and regulations bearing upon the subject, it is proper to recapitulate the several questions which are raised in this document and submitted for decision, as authorized by law, viz:—

Question 1st.—Whether the "prices" or "cost to the Schools of the prize and library books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction should be fixed—

(1.) By the Council of Public Instruction.

(2.) By the Chief Superintendent of Education.

(3.) Or by the Booksellers, or other parties sending in books for the approval of the Council.

Question 2nd.—On what principle should the "prices" or "cost" of these books to the Schools be fixed, viz:—

(1.) Whether the "price" or "cost" of a book should include (*a*) its net prime cost from the original publisher, (*b*) for exchange, (*c*) freight and shipping dues, (*d*) duty, (*e*) insurance, (*f*) salaries of clerks, and (*g*) contingent expenses of management, which are all actual expenditures, and (*h*) the usual estimated percentage for depreciation of stock on hand.

(2.) Or, whether, in addition to these actual expenditures incurred in procuring books and managing the Educational Depository, and for percentage for stock depreciation, the "prices" or "cost" of books to the Schools should also include (*i*) an estimated sum for rent (*j*) for taxes, (*k*) for interest on Legislative Grant employed, and (*l*) salaries of clerks, (at least beyond the $1,400 per annum, payable by Statute out of "grants" made by the Legislature).

Question 3rd.—Whether the phrase "*on the same terms,*" which originally occurred in the Act of 1855, and is continued in the Consolidated Acts of 1859 and 1874, would not determine the cost of the books to the Schools, on the principle of the rates of charge for them as they existed in 1855, viz:—the prime cost of the books from the original publisher, with the added charge for exchange, freight, shipping charges, duty, insurance, salaries, and the estimated percentage for stock depreciations.

Question 4th.—Whether an added profit out of books supplied to the Schools from the Educational Depository over and above the amount of actual expenditure for them, contingent expenses of management and percentage for depreciation of stock, was contemplated or authorized, or is contemplated and authorized by the Legislature under its successive Acts bearing upon the subject.

(Signed,) J. George Hodgins,
Deputy Superintendent.

Paper No. 28.

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF ONTARIO TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

Toronto, 27th August, 1874.

Sir,—Your letter of the 24th ult., asking my opinion under the statute as to "what should be regarded as cost prices of books provided by the Educational Department for Libraries and Prizes for the Public and High Schools, and who should determine those prices," was received at my house when I was absent, during the "long vacation," and I only put my hand on it yesterday.

I presume there are parties interested in the discussion of the questions submitted in your letter, who may wish to be heard in the matter. I think the better course will be to have the case appended to your letter set down for argument in the Court, and the usual notice given to the parties interested, that they may be heard and their views presented to the Court before any decision is come to.

Of course, if the parties desire it, the argument can take place before myself instead of the full court.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) Wm. B. Richards,
Chief Justice.

To the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, &c., &c.,
Toronto.

Paper No. 29.

CIRCULAR TO THE BOOKSELLERS IN REGARD TO THE FOREGOING CASE SUBMITTED TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

Education Office,
Toronto, 7th September, 1874.

Gentlemen,—I have thought proper to submit a special case to one of the Judges of

the Superior Courts, as authorized by the 32nd section, sub-section 3rd of the new School Act, 37 Vic., chaptered 27, in order to obtain an authoritative decision as to whether the Council of Public Instruction, or Chief Superintendent, or the booksellers, are to determine the prices and the principle of determining the prices of books to be sanctioned by the Council under the new clauses on the subject introduced into the School Acts.

I have caused a statement of the case to be prepared so far as the Education Department is concerned, and have forwarded it to the Honourable the Chief Justice of Ontario, who has intimated to me a desire that parties interested adversely to the views which I held on this subject should have an opportunity of being heard before him.

Under these circumstances I have to request that should you desire to take any steps in the matter, you will be good enough to name your legal adviser, and prepare and transmit to the Chief Justice your counter case, and also a copy of it to me, so that a time may be fixed by the Chief Justice for the argument of the whole case. On your application, I will furnish you with a copy of the case, as I have submitted it, as soon as printed.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E. Ryerson.

Paper No. 30.

LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT.

Toronto, 15th Sept., 1874.

My Dear Sir,—I received through the post yesterday a printed copy of your "case and correspondence respecting the prices of books for school libraries and prizes." In a legal point of view, the case is far too long, and contains a great deal of matter entirely irrelevant to the decision of the legal question, though in other respects interesting and valuable. To avoid a like error again, I would like you to submit to my Department beforehand, every case which you may have occasion to refer to any other Judges hereafter for their opinion under the Act.

If the claim has really been made that booksellers can insist on regulating the prices of books which are on hand for sale at the Depository, there seems to me so little ground in the language of the statute for such a claim that it was hardly worth while troubling the Judges with it. As a lawyer, I think it quite clear upon the terms of the statute, and I know it was my intention in submitting the claims in question to the Legislature, that when books which are on sale at the Depository are procured from booksellers, the 50 per cent. to be paid by the Department is to be calculated on the Depository prices, over which the booksellers have no control.

Until I read the case I was under the impression that the question had arisen with respect to a different class of books, viz., those for which the booksellers asked the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, and which were not procurable at the Depository. I am quite clear that under the Act it is for the booksellers to name the prices at which they will sell these books, though possibly the Council may refuse to sanction a book on account of the excessive price demanded for it. If trustees choose to buy any books of this class sanctioned by the Council, the 50 per cent. is to be calculated on the prices they actually pay, provided they do not exceed the prices they named to the Council when its sanction to the books was given. I presume, however, that there has been no dispute about the class of books.

I am extremely sorry for the delay in publishing in the *Journal of Education* a list of the books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction and not for sale, yet at the Depository. I take for granted, however, that for some reason or other, the delay, though unfortunate, has been unavoidable.

Yours &c.,

(Signed) O. Mowat.

The Rev. E. Ryerson, LL.D.,
Chief Superintendent of Education.

Paper No. 31.

LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT.

TORONTO, 2nd February, 1875.

MY DEAR SIR,—As I understand that, notwithstanding my letter of the 15th September last, the booksellers and the Department intend to ask the opinion of Chief Justice Richards on the case of which a printed copy was received by me at the date of my letter, I write now for the purpose of saying that I see no reason for the proceeding and I desire the case withdrawn. In accordance with the 30th section of the statute, 37 Victoria, Cap. 27, I authorize you to assume, and act upon the following view of the law :—

1st. That the fixing of prices of books sold at the Depository is a matter of internal arrangement, over which booksellers and others outside have no individual control.

2nd. That when books which have not appeared in your catalogues and are forwarded with a statement of their prices to the Department by booksellers or other parties who may have the same for sale, receive the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, the names of these books and the prices named for them by the booksellers are to be published in the next number of the *Journal of Education*. This second point is not mentioned in the printed "case" for the Judges.

Should the new books which are submitted by booksellers and which are sanctioned by the Council and advertised in the first subsequent issue of the Journal, be afterwards for sale at the Depository, there is no legal necessity for the Depository prices being regulated by those previously named by the booksellers.

I presume that after the expression of opinion contained in this letter, the Council will not desire that you should proceed with the "case" prepared for the Judges.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) O. MOWAT.

Rev. E. Ryerson, L.L.D.,
Chief Superintendent of Education.

Paper No. 32.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION ON THE DELAY IN CERTIFYING BOOKSELLERS' ACCOUNTS.

TORONTO, October 4th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to submit to you that many complaints are made by the booksellers of the delay in the Department in not paying the 100 per cent. granted to the trustees who buy their prize and library books from booksellers.

The reason assigned by the Department for the delay of months was, that all the funds granted by the Government for the year were expended, and a new grant must be made before they could be paid.

Trusting that the efforts made by the booksellers to receive a portion of their legitimate trade which has been lost to them may receive your still further consideration.

I am your obedient servant,
(Signed,) JAMES CAMPBELL,
President Booksellers' Association.

To Hon. Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education, Toronto.

Paper No. 33.

MEMORANDUM TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON MR. CAMPBELL'S STATEMENT AS TO THE DELAY IN CERTIFYING BOOKSELLERS' ACCOUNTS.

1. Mr. Campbell offers no proof of his general and unqualified statement.

2. Accounts received last December were not certified until about the middle of January, when we were notified by the Treasury Department that we might do so.

3. Since that time the accounts were certified as fast as they came in, and were found correct. For instance, an account received 15th January, was certified on the 19th; two accounts on the 17th were certified on the 19th, and so on.

4. I append two lists of all the accounts which have been received since the date when the Parliamentary grant was available. In the first list you will see the dates at which the accounts were received, and the dates at which they were certified for payment. In most cases you will find that these accounts were certified singly as fast as received, without even waiting to make weekly certificates. In all cases when delay occurred (as is explained in the second list), a reason is given. This reason invariable was defective accounts or absence of the statutory proof of correctness, &c., but in all these cases the parties concerned were at once apprized of the omission.

5. I regard Mr. Campbell's statement as most unjust and very incorrect.

(Signed,) J. GEORGE HODGINS,
Deputy Minister of Education.

6th October, 1876.

(Enclosure with No. 33.)

No. 1.—STATEMENT with reference to time of Receipt and Certification of Invoices for Goods purchased outside of Depository.

NOTE.—Some lists required much longer time to check off and verify than others.

SCHOOL.	BOOKSELLER.	Amount.	Received.	Certified for Payment.
		$ cts.	1876.	1876.
12 Woodhouse	A. J. Donly, Simcoe	5 94	January 3	Jan. 17
5 Wallace	Campbell & Son, Toronto	9 95	15	19
23 London	Reid & Anderson, London	35 07	17	19
22 King	S. H. Lundy, Aurora	10 59	17	19
13 Norwich	J. A. Tidey, Norwich	5 89	19	22
5 Westminster	E. A. Taylor & Co., London	24 34	10	22
6 Zorra, East	Gilbert Anderson, Woodstock	12 98	February 1	Feb. 4
10 Raleigh	J. Morrish, Chatham	6 07	3	9
1 Puslinch	J. Anderson, Guelph	27 81	2	11
5 Windham	A. J. Donly, Simcoe	5 02	14	15
10 St. Vincent	W.H. Iredale, Meaford	10 62	7	17
3 Woolwich	J. Oberholtzer, Berlin	5 35	March 4	March 7
5 Pilkington	J. Anderson, Guelph	10 78	6	7
New Edinburgh	Henderson & Co., Ottawa	14 86	Feb. 19	Feb. 23
8 Downie	Alexander Matheson, Stratford	7 09	March 20	March 29
8 Waterloo	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	9 61	29	30
3 Guelph	J. Anderson, Guelph	15 00	31	April 3
3 Waterloo	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	5 00	31	3
13 Charlotteville	Donly & Thomas, Simcoe	15 01	April 3	5
12 Woolwich	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	6 45	4	5
1 Guelph	J. Anderson, Guelph	5 44	5	7
4 Pilkington	do	6 13	5	7
5 Blandford	Nisbet & Co., Woodstock	18 00	March 28	8
8 Caradoc	R. Dickenson, Strathroy	11 89	April 10	13
7 St. Vincent	W. K. Ireland, Meaford	7 60	11	13
4 Eramosa	J. Anderson, Guelph	11 00	11	13
4 Woolwich and Wellesley	Oberholtzer & Co,, Berlin	7 04	11	13
5 Fenelon	Porter ——, Lindsay	7 75	17	19
3 Collingwood	J. Campbell & Son, Toronto	11 01	17	19
14 Blenheim	Thomas Martin, Paris	14 85	17	19
19 Wilmot	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	5 13	17	19
9 Woolwich	do	7 78	11	20
3 Woodhouse	Donly & Thomas, Simcoe	9 99	19	24
1 Humberstone	Brewster & Cutler, Ridgeway	5 00	22	24
11 Norwich, North	J. A. Tidey, Norwich	9 84	21	24
6 Puslinch	J. Anderson, Guelph	5 49	20	24
10 Bertie	Brewster & Cutler, Ridgeway	5 00	13	29
9 Darlington	Rev. C. Barker, Bowmanville	8 05	24	29
15 Beverly	J. Anderson, Guelph	14 26	27	29

No. 1.—STATEMENT with reference to time of Receipt and Certification of Invoices for Goods purchased outside of Depository.—*Continued.*

SCHOOL.	BOOKSELLER.	Amount.	Received.	Certified for Payment.
		$ cts.	1876.	1876.
5 Delaware	E. A. Taylor & Co., London	5 04	May 1	May 10
14 Wilmot	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	9 73	2	10
20 Thurlow	E. Harrison, Belleville	5 01	April 25	10
11 South Newcastle	Jas. Campbell & Son, Toronto	10 50	29	10
2 Whitchurch	S. H. Lundy, Aurora	16 00	May 8	10
12 Emily	R. S. Porter, Lindsay	12 81	2	16
17 Waterloo	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	9 43	17	22
4 Niagara	B. C. Fairfield, St. Catharines	11 54	6	26
24 Waterloo	T. J. Day, Guelph	12 76	26	June 1
8 London	John Mills, London	15 77	31	2
5 Guelph	T. J. Day, Guelph	3 96	June 5	16
Berlin	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	38 56	26	July 3
7 Hamilton	J. Salisbury, Cobourg	11 34	26	3
Milton	James Campbell & Son, Toronto	8 28	19	3
10 Dover, East	James Holmes, Chatham	9 90	July 3	7
8 McGillivray	S. Hey, Ailsa Craig	4 90	10	19
Lindsay	R. S. Porter, Lindsay	50 71	11	19
Preston	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	31 02	13	19
Woodstock	T. Woodstock	8 95	13	19
13 Haldimand	Salisbury & Co., Cobourg	4 18	August 4	August 17
18 Hamilton	do	5 13	11	22
10 Dumfries	Thomas Martin, Paris	8 25	12	22
9 Haldimand	J. C. Reynolds, Cobourg	5 00	Sept. 6	Sept. 11
9 Sydenham	W. K. Ireland, Meaford	28 28	25	28
10 do	do	29 01	25	28
6 Chatham	R. Cooper, Chatham	5 13	21	28
1 Vaughan	Campbell & Son, Toronto	26 10	Dec. 22,'75	Jan. 22
Payment in this case was from misunderstandin	delayed, in the first place, from insuffici g Mr. Thomas Carr's relation to the Tru	ency of gr stees in th	ant, and s e purchase	econdly, of the
books.				
23 Townsend	A. J. Donly, Simcoe	6 01	Dec. 22,'75	Jan. 22
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, January 10th, 1876.			
4 Essa	E. M. Banting, Clover Hill	11 00	Dec. 22,'75	Feb. 10
Payment delayed on accou was not also a school-	nt of error in bookseller's receipt, and i master.	nquiry as	to whether	bookseller
4 Markham and Vaughan	A. Scott, Richmond Hill	15 55	Jan. 22	Feb. 10
Bookseller's receipt not re	ceived till 5th February, 1876.			
1 King and Whitchurch	A. Scott, Richmond Hill	12 19	Jan. 22	15
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, 10th February, 1876.			
2 Eramosa	J. Anderson, Guelph	5 00	Dec. 28,'75	March 3
Bookseller's receipt not re	ceived till 22nd February, 1876.			
5 Collingwood	J. Campbell & Son, Toronto	8 79	Jan. 10	10
Bookseller's receipt not re	ceived till 6th March, 1876.			
6 Chatham	Robert Cooper, Chatham	5 10	Jan. 21	17
Delayed from error in add has been certified, wh	ition of invoice. In letter of Dept., 26t ich was not done till 17th March, 1876—	h January	, it is stat ed amount	
		ause does	not appear	
10 Dumfries, South	Thomas Martin, Paris	20 98	Mar. 18	April 3
Guarantee for proper disp	osition and bookseller's receipt recieved	d, March	31st, 1876.	
2 Guelph	J. Anderson, Guelph	12 12	March 27	24
Trustees' guarantee for pr	oper disposition not received till April 1	8th, 1876.		
8 Chatham	James Holmes, Chatham	12 03	Feb. 29	24
Bookseller's receipt not re	ceived till April 17th, 1876.			
7 Mariposa	R. S. Porter, Lindsay	18 94	April 5	
Bookseller's receipt not re	ceived till April 25th, 1876.			

No. 1.—STATEMENT with reference to time of Receipt and Certification of Invoices for Goods purchased outside of Depository.—*Continued.*

SCHOOL.	BOOKSELLER.	Amount.	Received.	Certified for Payment.
		$ cts.	1876.	1876.
10 Dumfries, South.....	Thomas Martin, Paris	9 26	March 30	May 1
Explanation wanted as to	supposed improper prize books. Expla	nation rec	eived, 25th	April, '76.
4 Guelph	T. J. Day, Guelph.....	18 37	April 20	May 10
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, May 8th, 1876.			
Simcoe	Donly & Thomas, Simcoe	40 47	18	June 12
Error in addition of invoic	e. Bookseller's corrected receipt recei	ved, June	8th, 1876.	
1 Nissouri, East.....	Reid & Anderson, London	4 86	July 28	August 17
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, August 7th, 1876.			
2 Woolwich	Oberholtzer & Co., Berlin	5 00	24	19
Trustees' guarantee for pr	oper disposition received, August 9th, 1	876.		
C. I. Cobourg	Salisbury & Co., Cobourg	15 02	17	21
Cause of delay does not a	ppear.			
5 Goderich	J. A. Yuill, Clinton	25 13	Jan. 17	Feb. 18
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, February 17th, 1876.			
8 Norwich, North	J. A. Tidey, Norwich	20 03	19	18
Bookseller's receipt receiv	ed, February 18th, 1876.			

Paper No. 34.

PRICE OF PRIZE AND LIBRARY BOOKS FIXED AT 19 CTS. TO THE SHILLING STERLING.

Copy of an Order in Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the 24th day of November, A.D. 1876.

Upon the report and recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Education, dated the 20th November, 1876, the Committee of Council advise that the annexed regulation with respect to the Depository Branch of the Education Department be approved by your Honour.

(Signed) J. G. SCOTT,
Clerk Executive Council, Ontario.

25th November, 1876.

The undersigned begs respectfully to submit for the consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, the following, with respect to the Depository of the Education Department, namely:—

The Consolidated School Act, 37 Vic. cap. 27, sec. 31, sub-section 20, authorized the payment out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature of one-half the cost of any prize or library books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction, for Public Schools, and High Schools, which might be purchased by the Municipal or School Corporation, from any Bookseller or other parties instead of at the Depository.

The Chief Superintendent had been also authorized out of moneys provided by the Legislature to grant aid in the purchase of Prize and Library Books, Maps and Apparatus, to an amount equal to that contributed and expended from local sources for the same object, and the Depository had been established through which this was being carried into effect.

The extension by the Act of 1874, of this principle of aid to Prize and Library Books purchased elsewhere, has given rise to the question as to the relative terms on which the Booksellers and the Department should supply these books. The late Chief Superintendent, in July, 1874, prepared a case to submit to the Chief Justice of Ontario for his opinion, in order to determine this question. The points involved were (1) what was to be deemed the "*cost*" of books procured from Booksellers or other parties, and (2) the proper "*cost*" of books from the Depository. No opinion was, however, expressed by the Chief Justice.

The Act of 1874 left it optional with Municipal and School Corporations to purchase Prize and Library Books from the Depository or elsewhere ; and if this could be done with equal advantages, the effect would be to protect these Corporations in the quality and price of the books, through the competition of the Depository and Bookselling trade, while the Depository being continued would ensure the schools always obtaining these books at fair prices.

Purchasers from the Booksellers are by this Act placed under the supervision of the Department, and there are proper safeguards as to the cost, the edition, and binding of the books. It is in the interest of the Schools that the fullest effect should be given to this provision of the Act, which established mutual competition between the Depository and the Trade.

The Booksellers, however, represent that this effect has been frustrated by the Department : firstly, in requiring too formal a procedure in obtaining payment of the accounts for books supplied through them, and, secondly, in having reduced the price of books in the Depository, so as to represent eighteen cents to the shilling sterling, instead of nineteen or twenty cents, which was formerly the charge.

The undersigned proposes to simplify the routine for payment ; and as to the price, the undersigned, upon consideration of all the circumstances, which are fully discussed in the different documents before the undersigned, has come to the conclusion that the cost of books furnished by the Depository neary represents nineteen cents to the shilling sterling.

The undersigned would therefore respectfully recommend your Honour, in Council, to approve of the annexed regulation herewith submitted to that effect.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) Adam Crooks,
Minister of Education.

Education Department, Ontario,
Toronto, 20th November, 1876.

Regulation with Respect to the Depository Branch.

The price of Prize and Library Books purchased by Municipal or School Corporations from the Depository, in respect of which aid is granted out of moneys voted by the Legislature shall be based upon (19) nineteen cents to the one shilling sterling, in respect of all Prize and Library Books placed in stock since the 1st of January, 1876.

Paper No. 35.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING PURCHASES OF LIBRARY AND PRIZE BOOKS FROM BOOKSELLERS—APPROVED BY HIS HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Copy of an Order in Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the 20th day of December, A.D. 1876.

Upon the Report of the Honourable the Minister of Education, dated the 16th December, 1876, the Committee of Council advise that the annexed regulations, respecting purchase of Library and Prize Books from Booksellers, be submitted for the requirements under the former regulations of the Council of Public Instruction.

Certified.

(Signed) J. G. Scott,
Clerk Executive Council, Ontario

23rd December, 1876.

1. The annexed form of account and guarantee is substituted for that formerly in use.

2. As a general rule one copy only of each book should be supplied to each school, in order that, as far as possible, the information to be found in a variety of books may be widely diffused.

3. The amount of each purchase is not to be under the sum of $10.

4. The bookc are to be selected *bona fide* for the purpose of Prizes to the pupils of the school, or for the school library, (as the case may be) and are not to be acquired for, or to be disposed of by any teacher or private person, or for any purpose whatsoever, except as Library or Prize Books for the school. Any default, by any school corporation, in this particular, will forfeit its right to the one-half allowance for any book to be purchased in future.

(Signed) ADAM CROOKS
Minister.

Education Department,
December 15th, 1876.

PARTICULARS OF CLAIM.

Trustees of.....

FOR AUTHORIZED BOOKS FOR LIBRARIES OR SCHOOL PRIZES.

Purchased from.....

ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE.

Amount of Claim for Refund, $.....

Name of Book.	Name of Publisher of Book.	EDITION AND PRICE OF BOOK.					Notes or Remarks.
		Edition of Book.	Style of Binding.	Page of Catalogue or No. of Book.	Price charged by Booksellers. $	Cents.	
				Total, $			
				One-half payable to the Trustees.			

NOTE.—The undertaking endorsed on this schedule is to be signed by the Trustees. Any book which has not been authorized by the Department will be struck off this schedule. There is no allowance for any purchase under $10.

To the Education Department, Ontario.

UNDERTAKING OF THE TRUSTEES OF

We, the undersigned Trustees, do hereby certify that we have purchased the Books mentioned in the within schedule at the prices therein mentioned, strictly for the purpose of School Prizes (or Libraries), and we undertake that such Books shall be properly applied for this purpose, and will not permit them to be disposed of to the Teachers, or to any private person, or for any private purpose whatsoever.

We therefore claim to be refunded one-half of the amount paid by us to Mr. (as per his receipted bill sent herewith), viz., $

As witness our hands and corporate seal of office,* at this day of 187.

Signature of Trustees or any two of them.

[*Corporate seal to be placed here.*]

NOTE.—The above, in the case of Rural Schools, is to be signed by at least a majority of the Trustees, and in cities, towns, and incorporated villages, by the Chairman dan Secretary. In all cases the Corporate seal is to be attached.

Paper No. 36.

APPROVAL OF PRIZE AND LIBRARY BOOKS.

Copy of an Order in Council approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the 27th day of October, A.D. 1876.

Upon consideration of the report of the Honourable the Minister of Education, dated the 17th of October, 1876, the Committee of Council, under the provisions of 27 Victoria, Cap 27, section 27, sub-sections 24 and 27, as varied by 39 Victoria, Cap. 16, recommend the books marked as approved in the accompanying list, for use for libraries and for prizes in the High and Public Schools, and advise that such books be approved of by your Honour.

Certified. J. G. SCOTT,
Clerk Executive Council, Ontario.

The Honourable the Minister of Education.
26th October, 1876.

The undersigned respectfully recommends to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, in Council, that the books marked *as approved* on the accompanying Lists, having been recommended after examination by the Central Committee of Examiners for Libraries and for Prizes in the High and Public Schools, be sanctioned under the authority of the Act 37 Victoria, Cap. 27, section 27, sub-sections 24 and 27.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) A. CROOKS.
Minister of Education.

Education Department,
Toronto, 17th October, 1876.

NOTE.—*The lists were published in the Journal of Education as approved.*

Paper No. 37.

STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY SALES, 1875-6.

The amounts sold, the sums received, and the distribution were as follows :—

	1875.	1876.
Sales of Books to Rural Schools	$24081 00	$23157 00
do Urban do	6696 00	5040 00
Sales of Maps, Apparatus to Rural Schools	$15163 00	$15325 00
do Urban do	5787 00	5109 00

Sales at net prices of miscellaneous school material to schools	8490 00	10161 00
Sales to third parties for school purposes	1953 00	1834 00
Total operations of Depository	$62170 00	$60635 00
Value of sales by booksellers	2061 00	4777 00
	$64231 00	$65412 00

The Rural Schools supplied in 1875 were 1512
The Urban Schools do do 87
The Rural Schools supplied in 1876 were 1475
The Urban Schools do do 80

The gross amount of receipts in 1875, was $36,307 99, of which $1953 was received from third parties for school purposes, the remaining $34,355 being from Public, High and Normal Schools.

The gross amount received in 1877, was $36,315 15, of which $1833 was from third parties.

Paper No. 38.

PURCHASES FOR EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY, 1875–76.

Stock purchased in 1875 :—

Paid for Maps, Apparatus, &c		$12958 00
do Library Books, &c		33259 24
		$46217 24

Stock purchased in 1876 :—

Paid for Maps, Apparatus, &c		$18788 00
do Library Books, &c		39213 30
		$57901 30

Total Payments in 1875 :—

For Stock	$56217 24	
Freight, Customs, &c	3375 62	
Contingencies	2483 99	
Salaries	4855 00	
		$56931 85

Payment on account of purchases from Booksellers :—

13 Urban Schools	408 59	
55 Rural do	621 88	
		$1030 47
		$57962 32

Total payments in 1876 :—

For Stock	$57901 30	
Freight, Customs, &c	3610 00	
Contingencies	3110 00	
Salaries	5105 00	
		$69726 30

Payment on account of purchases from Booksellers :—

17 Urban Schools	517 77	
157 Rural do	1870 93	
		$2388 70
		$72115 00

Paper No. 39.

PETITION OF BOOKSELLERS IN ONTARIO.

To His Excellency the Hon. D. A. MACDONALD, *Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.*

The Petition of the undersigned booksellers of the Province of Ontario, humbly sheweth :—

1. That their interests as booksellers are greatly hindered by the maintenance by the Government, at the Educational Office in Toronto, of a Depository for the sale of books, and the public funds of the Province are employed in carrying on a trade, whereby retail dealers are undersold, and are thereby excluded from one of the most important branches of local business to which, as tradesmen, they are equally entitled with the members of all other legitimate trades.

2. That the existence of such a Government Book Depository exclusively centralised in Toronto, is no less detrimental to the general interests of the community than to booksellers, by depriving the retail traders of one of the most general sources of business, viz : the supply of Library Books and School Prizes ; and so tending to prevent the establishment of stores for the sale of books in the smaller towns and villages, where an opportunity of inspecting and purchasing books, is calculated to aid materially in the diffusion of knowledge, so as to form an important auxiliary to the excellent School system of the Province.

2. That the removal of restrictions from Trustees of Mechanics' Institutes, and the permission extended to them to purchase books for their Libraries from the booksellers, instead of from the Government Depository, have given general satisfaction, and as your petitioners believe, have afforded ample choice, and led to a better selection of books.

4. That the extension of the same system to School Trustees, while still allowing them as heretofore one hundred per cent. in addition to their own appropriations for the purchase of books, would give no less general satisfaction, while it would in no degree interfere with the continued exercise by the Minister of Education, of the right of determining the class of books, from which alone selections shall be made, in purchasing books for School Prizes or School Libraries.

5. That by the School Amendment Act of 1874, the Legislature recognized the impolicy and injustice of a system which excluded School Trustees from the advantages enjoyed by others in the purchase of books, and deprived the bookselling trade of one of its most important branches of business. But the partial relief therein enacted, which permitted School Trustees under certain regulations, to purchase from booksellers, was rendered nugatory by the Department immediately lowering their prices, and so using the public funds to undersell the regular trade, and wholly to exclude the retail bookseller from profiting by the relief professedly enacted for his benefit.

6. That your Petitioners are compelled to contrast the invidious position which the Canadian Bookseller thus occupies, as compared with those in Great Britain, where the Government not only takes no part in the sale of books, but all parties have cordially united in removing every restriction to the amplest diffusion of literature among the people, by abolishing the stamp act, removing the duty on paper, and regulating the copyright law so as to give the greatest encouragement to literary production in the interests of the people

7. Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the Government Bank Depository may be abolished, as an institution at variance with sound principles of trade, wholly inconsistent with the advanced condition of the Province, and involving great injustice to the Book Trade, while it secures no compensating benefit to the community ; but, on the contrary, hampers School Trustees, limits them in their choice of books, and interferes with the growth of a local Book Trade in the smaller towns and villages of the Province, which could not fail to exercise a beneficial influence in the general diffusion of literature among the people.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed)

Rowsell & Hutchinson. ..... *Toronto.*
James Bain & Son..... *do*
William Warwick..... *do*
Willing & Williamson..... *do*
P. C. Allan..... *do*

James Campbell & Son.....*Toronto.*
Hart & Rawlinson..... *do*
Robert Marshall..... *do*
Alfred Piddington..... *do*
R. Wilkinson..... *do*
Winnifrith Bros..... *do*
C. A. Backas..... *do*
McMullen & Co.....*Brockville.*
Ed. Overell..... *do*
F. L. Kincaid..... *do*
Samuel Woods.....*Kingston.*
John Henderson..... *do*
Henry & Bros.....*Napanee.*
Salisbury & Humphries.....*Cobourg.*
W. Williamson.....*Port Hope.*
P. Maulton..... *do*
James Baird..... *do*
Thomas Menzies.....*Peterborough.*
Davidson & Co..... *do*
Alfred E. Hayte.....*Milbrook.*
Alfred Leach..... *do*
John Ramsay.....*Baysville.*
L. P. Stickney & Co.....*Uxbridge.*
A. McLachlin .....*St. Thomas.*
Reid & Anderson .....*London.*
Robert Reid..... *do*
Reid, Groat & Co..... *do*
John Mills..... *do*
W. Bryce..... *do*
C. Wright..... *do*
B. H. Rothwell.....*Windsor.*
Ropert Cooper.....*Chatham.*
John Monosh ..... *do*
Gilbert Anderson.....*Woodstock.*
T. J. Day .....*Guelph.*
R. L. Chandler .....*St. Thomas.*
Thomas Martin.....*Paris.*
W. McHaffie.....*Brantford.*
C. A. Buck & Co ..... *do*
A. Henderson ..... *do*
J. Sutherland ..... *do*
W. T. Smith.....*Galt.*
C. W. Toumans..... *do*
John Eastwood & Co .....*Hamilton.*
Duncan, Stewart & Co ..... *do*
Lancefield Brothers ..... *do*
J. Anderson.....*Guelph.*
D. McMaster.....*Sarnia.*
E. A. Taylor & Co .....*London.*
A. J. Donly .....*Simcoe.*
A. Mathewson .....*Stratford.*
E. H. Scoles ..... *do*
Joseph Reading ..... *do*
James A. Yuill.....*Clinton.*
J. A. Nelles ..... *do*
J. G. McCrae .....*Sarnia.*
D. McMaster..... *do*
B. H. Rothwell .....*Windsor.*

John A. Lidey.....*Norwich.*
M. M. Roseburgh.....*Exeter.*
W. Guff & Son.....*do*
W. P. McLaren.....*Watford.*
R. Dickson.....*Strathroy.*
W. H. Emer.....*do*
William Wylie.....*Ayr*
Livingstone & Kilborn.....*Plattsville.*
John Cameron.....*Bright.*
F. H. McCallum.....*New Hamburg.*
C. Burnff.....*Waterloo.*
Christie, Henderson & Co.....*Acton.*
George Yemen.....*do*
Hill Brothers.....*do*
T. A. Secord.....*do*
Creelman Brothers.....*Georgetown.*
Thomas Rustor.....*do*
Robertson & Morse.....*Milton.*
P. L. Woods.....*Brampton.*
Ed. T. Stock.....*do*
R. A. Skirving.....*Columbus.*
Davidson & Co.....*Peterborough.*
Thos. Menzies.....*do*
Chas. E. Marshall.....*Kingston.*
H. Henderson, for J. Henderson.....*do*
G. W. Maxwell.....*do*
T. McAuley.....*do*
Samuel Woods.....*do*
John Hart.....*Perth.*
J. Durie & Son.....*Ottawa.*
Henderson & Co.....*do*
James Hope & Co.....*do*
E. A. Perry.....*do*
Arthur L. Holmes.....*do*
Wm. M. Keith.....*Smith Falls.*

January, 1877.

Paper No. 40.

ANALYSIS OF THE BOOKSELLERS' PETITION BY DR. HODGINS, DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

1st Paragraph.—"The Public funds of the Province are employed in carrying on a trade, whereby retail dealers are undersold."

Remarks.—This lays down the principle that in supplying our Schools with Library and Prize Books. the retail dealers must not be undersold by the Depository. They charge from 25c. to 30c. for a 1s. sterling book, and therefore, the schools must pay that price instead of 18c. or 19c. It also lays down the principle that the Government shall not supply its own schools with books, except through retail booksellers, and at their prices; that is, also, that it shall not supply its own offices with stationery, or any branch of the public service, with what it may require, except at prices whereby retail dealers shall not be undersold. In other words, the petitioners would compel the schools to pay a large profit to retail dealers for books, over and above that which the Depository now pays for them to wholesale publishers for the purpose of distributing them at these low prices to the schools all over the Province. The wholesale dealer is quite satisfied with these prices we pay. No other persons in the trade have a superior right to them to come in and say, that the Government must compel the schools to pay retail prices for books which can be freely had at wholesale rates.

2nd Paragraph, speaks of the Depository being "exclusively centralized in Toronto."

Remarks.—As a matter of fact, the supply through booksellers is *wholly "centralized in Toronto."* All the lists which are sent in from various parts of the country for payment are prepared at Mr. Campbell's bookstore, and distributed from there. They are chiefly if not all in one hand-writing. The books are also chiefly sent down in packages as ordered, so that as they cannot possibly be "inspected and purchased" in the towns and villages as alleged.

Further, of the 8,482 volumes sent out and by the booksellers in 1874 and 1875, 3,952 or nearly one-half were Nelson's and Sons of Edinburgh, 1,144 Routledge's of London, leaving only 3,386 to be supplied from all the other leading publishers in England, Scotland and the United States. The same is also true of the books supplied in 1876, showing that the policy is now a settled one. Of the 7,226 books supplied by booksellers in 1876, no less than 3,168 or nearly one-half were Nelson's publications, and 1,003 Routledge's, leaving only 3,005 to be supplied from the publications of all the other houses mentioned.

Thus of the 15,708 books sent ont by booksellers to the end of 1876, 7,120 were Nelson's alone, and 2,147 Routledge's, leaving only 6,441 for all the other publishers. Surely this is a great injustice to the schools and a restrictive monopoly of a pernicious kind. Another evil arising out of this centralized private monopoly is, that offers of a percentage for securing orders, has been offered to some of our inspectors, which is directly contrary to law. Teachers also are sought to be influenced in the same way.

3rd Paragraph is entirely incorrect as a matter of fact. There never were any restrictions on Mechanics' Institutes as to where they should purchase. Had there been so, the discreditable fact relating to their book supply, as reported to the late Council of Public Instruction, would not have had any existence.

5th Paragraph.—"The Department using the public funds to undersell the regular trade, and wholly to exclude the retail bookseller from profiting by the relief professedly enacted for his benefit."

Remarks.—Here is a reiteration of the principle that the Government in supplying its own schools with books, must consult the interests of the retail, rather than the wholesale dealer. In this matter the Government should be left free to exercise its own discretion; and so long as it pays the wholesale trader reasonable prices, the retail dealer has no superior right to insist that he shall be preferred in these transactions, and that the trustee shall be compelled to buy from him. The Government as trustee and guardian of the schools must be left free to buy in their interest from the wholesale rather than from the retail dealer.

The law was not (as the petition alleges), "professedly enacted for the retail dealer." No one at the time, so far as I remember, took such narrow ground, or professed to have such a selfish object in view. The right of "competition" was all that was claimed by the bookseller for himself, and the privilege of the right of "choice" as to place of purchase was also claimed by the bookseller (professing to speak for the trustees although they themselves made no such claims). The enactment was purely permissive, and not obligatory or coercive so far as the trustees were concerned. The petition now takes other ground and desires no longer the "competition" claimed with the Depository, but its destruction, for the benefit of the retail dealer, with a view to compel trustees to buy from him at such prices as he may fix.

6th Paragraph speaks of "the amplest diffusion of literature among the people."

I have already shown (paragraph 1), that while the Depository alone provides for and has abundant facilities for "the amplest diffusion of literature among the people," the system adopted for the last two years by the booksellers restricts the cheap supply of literature to one house in Toronto, and the productions of two instead of nearly one hundred book publishers.

(Signed,) J. GEORGE HODGINS.

Toronto, February, 1877.